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ANNALS OF  
SHREWSBURY SCHOOL









THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS FROM THE CASTLE

ANNALS  
OF  
SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

BY  
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TO THE MEMORY  
OF  
BENJAMIN HALL KENNEDY, D.D.  
HEAD MASTER OF SHREWSBURY  
1836-1866  
A BRILLIANT SCHOLAR, A GREAT TEACHER  
A STEADFAST FRIEND, AN ELOQUENT SPEAKER  
THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT  
OF THE SCHOOL  
HE LOVED SO WELL AND SERVED SO TRULY  
IS DEDICATED BY  
THE AUTHOR



## INTRODUCTION

VARIOUS events have happened during the last few years which are calculated to bring Old Salopians more frequently together, and to renew or increase their interest in the school where they were educated. Of these the most important is the foundation of the Old Salopian Club, which now numbers more than seven hundred members. Under its auspices the Triennial Dinner has become a permanent institution, and the "Year Book," which is sent to all its members, supplies them with a valuable record of any occurrences connected with Shrewsbury School which are likely to be of interest to its past or present scholars.

The revival of the annual Speech Day is another important event in the recent annals of the school. Two books also have appeared during the last eight years which could not fail to be of deep interest to Shrewsbury men. First, Dr Calvert's admirable edition of the *Regestum Scholarium from 1562 to 1635*, which was published in 1892; and, secondly, *The Life and Letters of Dr. Samuel Butler*, edited by his grandson, which appeared in 1896. Another book, and one which will perhaps excite greater interest among the younger generations of Salopians, may, not improbably, see the light before the present year comes to an end. It comprises, among other matters of school interest, a list of Shrewsbury scholars during the past century, with biographical notes, on which the Rev. J. E. Auden has bestowed much time and labour.

It remains for me now to speak briefly of the volume to which these words are intended to form an Introduction. When I was asked by Mr. Spencer Hill, three years ago, to write the *Annals of Shrewsbury School*, I began my work

under favourable circumstances. Not only had I in my possession much manuscript material, collected many years ago, in the hope that it might some day help to illustrate the early history of the school, but four long-lost volumes had recently been discovered, in which Mr. Hotchkis, the antiquarian head master of the eighteenth century, transcribed many important documents and wrote many valuable notes relating to school affairs. I need hardly say that I have found these Hotchkis MSS. of great service. Much light also has been thrown on school history from 1578 to 1797 by two volumes of school accounts, of which very little seems to have been known before 1890. I have made much use again of the school documents preserved among the Town Records, which the recent labours of a committee of Shrewsbury antiquarians have rendered easy of access. To one of these gentlemen, Mr. William Phillips, my best thanks are due for kindly help given me in ways too numerous to mention. It is a pleasant duty also to express my gratitude to several old friends among the assistant masters for their ready and valuable assistance in writing some of the closing chapters. Without the bibliographical knowledge indeed of Mr. T. E. Pickering it would have been impossible for me to do any kind of justice to the interesting library which belongs to the school. But to no one am I more indebted than to my old friend and colleague Dr. Calvert, who has from the first taken a deep interest in the progress of the book, and has done his best to help to make it a truthful history of Shrewsbury School. There are many Old Salopians again, far too many to mention by name, who have corresponded with me about their schooldays, whom I desire to thank once more for the reminiscences with which they have so kindly supplied me, and which the following pages will show I have duly appreciated.



## NOTE

**M**R. FISHER, at the time of his death last November, had completed the writing of the "Annals," and had revised the proofs except that of the last chapter and the Appendices. My task in seeing the work through the press has not been difficult. I have completed the revision of the proofs, supervised the making of the Index, and have arranged for the illustrations, of which Mr. Fisher had only selected about a dozen. In this part of my work I have particularly to thank Mr. A. F. Chance, Mr. W. D. Haydon (who has taken many of the photographs specially), and Mr. E. Tudor Owen, who have all been most helpful. My best thanks are also due to the Rev. C. J. S. Churchill, for the portrait of Mr. T. A. Bentley; to Mr. Samuel Butler, for the view of the old school in 1833, reproduced from his *Life and Letters of Bishop Butler*; to Messrs. Adnitt and Naunton, for permission to reproduce the view of the castle and school in 1658, facing page 173; and to Dr. Calvert, for the view facing page 392. To Dr. Kennedy's note on *Libera Schola*, in the Appendix, page 463, I have added, at the suggestion of Mr. T. E. Pickering, the differing view held by Mr. A. F. Leach, our latest authority on such matters, though it does not seem to me altogether convincing.

Every one into whose hands the book may come, whether Old Salopians or others, must regret that Mr. Fisher did not live to see the full completion of a work on which he spent so much loving labour, and in which, I think every one will admit, he has achieved very considerable success. I have only to add that I shall be grateful for any additions or corrections, which shall be carefully considered when a new edition is required.

J. S. H.



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EDWARD VI.

FROM A PAINTING BY HOLBEIN

# ANNALS OF SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

## CHAPTER I.

Foundation and Endowment of Shrewsbury School by Royal Charter, granted on February 10th, 155 $\frac{1}{2}$ —Early Head Masters, "Sir Morys" and John Eyton—Thomas Ashton, M.A., Head Master from 1562-1571.

WHEN the Commission for general education was issued by the Government of Edward VI. in 1548, Shrewsbury was not one of the towns originally selected by the Commissioners as the site of a Royal Grammar School. The Charter and endowment which were ultimately granted to Shrewsbury School seem to have been obtained by the strenuous exertions and supplications of the people who lived in that part of England. In the course of the year 1548 a supplication was made to the Lord Chancellor by Mr. Reginald Corbet,<sup>1</sup> the Recorder of Shrewsbury, that a Free School might be granted to the town,<sup>2</sup> and, later on in the same year, the Corporation laid out £20 in the purchase of suitable buildings for the purpose.<sup>3</sup> Two years

<sup>1</sup> *Reginald Corbet* was the third son of Sir Robert Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, Shropshire. He was appointed Reader of the Middle Temple in 1551, Serjeant-at-law in April, 1559, and Justice of the King's Bench in October of the same year. He died in 1566. (*Foss's Lives of the Judges.*)

<sup>2</sup> Extracts from the Corporation Accounts, given in OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*, show that the Recorder was paid 10s. for his services, and that the Corporation took the precaution to propitiate the favour of a servant of the Lord Chancellor by a gift of 20d.

<sup>3</sup> "Sol pempcōe liber' Scolē inf<sup>a</sup> vill' Salop h'end 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ."—Extract from Corporation Accounts as given by OWEN and BLAKEWAY.



afterwards we find the inhabitants of all the neighbouring country joining the Bailiffs, burgesses, and inhabitants of Shrewsbury in a humble petition to the King, representing their need of a Grammar School, and praying that some portion of the estates of the recently dissolved Collegiate Churches of St. Mary and St. Chad in Shrewsbury might be devoted to its support.<sup>1</sup> This petition was presented to the King<sup>2</sup> by Mr. Hughe Edwardes, who had been a mercer in London, but belonged to a Shropshire family, and was now residing in Shrewsbury, and Mr. Richard Whittaker, one of the Town Bailiffs. In the Corporation accounts for the year mention is made of various sums paid to Mr. Whittaker<sup>3</sup> for his expenses in the matter, while there is no record of similar payments to Mr. Edwardes.<sup>4</sup> The probable explanation is that the latter was regarded as representing the aliens who had joined in the petition, while Whittaker acted as the official representative of the town of Shrewsbury. The petitioners attained their object; and, on February 10th, 155 $\frac{1}{2}$ , a Charter was granted by the King for the foundation of a Grammar School in Shrewsbury, which was to bear the name of "Libera Schola<sup>5</sup> Grammaticalis Regis Edwardi Sexti." It is stated in the beginning of the Charter that it was

<sup>1</sup> See Charter of Edward VI. in Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> "1550. This yere, by the labor of one hughe Edwards of Salop, and late of London, mercer, and master Rycharde Whyttackers, beinge as thys yere, one of the bayliffs of thys towne of shrewsbery was laboryd to the kyng's m<sup>tie</sup> for anetie of xxl for and towads the mayntenance of A free scoole in the sayde towne of Shrewsbery for eu<sup>r</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> was obtaynid to the greate p<sup>e</sup>fermēt of the youthe of that towne and the quarters there adioyne, in good lernige and godly educacon."—*Taylor MS.*

<sup>3</sup> "1551-52. "Spent on Richard Whitacres at his arrival from London, 3s. 6d."

"Paid Richard Whitacres for divers costs by him expended, particularly about the free school, 58l. 18s. 4d."—Extracts from Corporation Accounts in *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> *Hughe Edwardes* came of a family long settled at Kilhendre in the Chapelry of Dudleston, Salop; but, being a younger son, he engaged in trade in London, and was still of that city on December 14th, 1549, when the King granted to him and William Knight, mercers, 10 messuages, 26 gardens, and half a pigeon house, parcel of the late dissolved College of St. Chad. He was warden of the Drapers' Company in Shrewsbury in 1562. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>5</sup> On the meaning of *Libera Schola*, see Appendix.

granted on the humble petition, "as well of the bailiffs burgesses and inhabitants of the Town of Shrewsbury in the County of Salop, as of very many other our subjects of the whole neighbouring country."<sup>1</sup> The school was to be conducted by "one master or instructor" and "one under-master or usher." A grant was made to the Bailiffs and burgesses of Shrewsbury in trust, for the maintenance of the school, of "all the tithes of blade corn and grain and hay, arising from the villages fields parishes and hamlets of Asteley, Sensawe, Cliff, Letton and Almon Park, in the County of Salop," which had formerly belonged to the suppressed "College of St. Mary the Virgin at Shrewsbury," and "all the similar tithes in the villages fields parishes and hamlets of Frankwell, Betton, Woodcote, Horton, Bickton, Calcote, Shelton, Whiteley and Welbach," which had belonged to the suppressed "College of St. Cedde in Shrewsbury."

These endowments, which amounted in value to £20 8s., were subject to a rent of 8s., to be paid to the Crown annually on the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel. Power was given to the Bailiffs and burgesses to appoint school-masters whenever vacancies should occur, and also, with the advice of the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, to make ordinances for the government of the school and the management of its property.

Very little is known of the working of Shrewsbury School during the ten years which followed its foundation. We learn from the Corporation accounts for the year from Midsummer 1551 that in some form it was started at once, for mention is there made of the payment of 12*d.* to "the master of the free scole, Sir Morys."<sup>2</sup> But the outbreak of the "Sweating Sickness" in Shrewsbury in 1550-51,<sup>3</sup> the death of Edward VI. in 1553, and the fact that the tithes

<sup>1</sup> "Totius patriæ ibidem vicinæ."

<sup>2</sup> "Regardo pedagogo lib'æ scolæ viz d'no Morys. 12*d.*"—*Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> "This yeare (1550-51) the swetinge sycknes raignyd in England and began first in the towne of shrewsbery the xxii of marche."—*Taylor MS.*

Dr. Caius says this was the fifth outbreak of the disease in England. The first was in 1485. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

granted to Shrewsbury had been leased out in 1548 for a term of twenty-one years,<sup>1</sup> were all serious impediments to school organization. What became of "Sir Morys" does not appear; but it is certain that he did not retain his position long, for in the accounts of the same year in which his name is mentioned, there occurs a further entry of 6s. 8d. "paid on account to John Eyton, hired to keep the free grammar school."<sup>2</sup> Perhaps the Bailiffs were unlucky in their choice of masters, or perhaps they were difficult to please; anyway, in October, 1556, we find them anxiously looking out for "an honest and able person to serve the Office of Head Schoolmaster of the Free Schoole," in order that they might "avoide John Eyton."<sup>3</sup>

After this no further mention of the school can be found in local records before June 21st, 1561. Under this date Hotchkis or Blakeway found the following entry in the Exchequer Book of Shrewsbury: "Agreed that Thomas Asheton with on other lerned scolemaster shall enter nowe at Mydsummer next, and for their stypend duryng the tyme untyll the leases be expyred, to have 40£, and for an usher 8£, and when the leases be expyred of Mr. Byston and Mr. Kelton, then y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr. Asheton, fynding one other scolemaster and usher, to have a pattent of all these tythes belonging to the free-schoole, for lyfe. Paying 8s. yearly to y<sup>e</sup> Queene for cheffe rent, and that he shall keepe all reparations of the scoole-house."<sup>4</sup> This Thomas Ashton is usually reckoned as the first Head Master of Shrewsbury School, and he might almost be called its Founder; for, by his exertions, the greater

<sup>1</sup> St. Mary's tithes were leased to Mr. Thomas Kelton on March 3rd, 1541, and St. Chad's tithes to Mr. George Byston on June 22nd, 1548. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> "Regardo et sup' comput John Eyton conduct' ad custodiend' lib'am scolā grammatical' 6s. 8d."—*Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> "Ult' Oct.' 3 and 4 P & M. Agreed . . . that yf Mr. Baylieffs can heare of an honest able . . . person which will serve the office of head scolemaster of the Free scole of the town and shall be thought mete . . . that then Mr. Bayliffs shall avoyd John Eyton now scolemaster gyving him one half year's warnynge—and the s<sup>d</sup> John Eyton to haue for his wages from Michaelmas last paste 14£ by year and not above."—*Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> *Blakeway MSS.*



part of its existing endowments was obtained, and to him are due, in the main, the Statutes and Ordinances by which the school was governed for more than two hundred years. Nothing is known of his parentage or place of birth. Blakeway suggests that he belonged to a Lancashire family, and that his connection with Shrewsbury was brought about through Whittaker, who was one of the Town Bailiffs when the Charter was granted, and who came originally from that county. But these suggestions appear to be mere guesswork, and Ashton's first acquaintance with Shrewsbury may be accounted for more plausibly.

From an early period it was the custom in Shrewsbury to celebrate Whitsuntide by the performance of a Mystery or a Morality in certain grounds adjoining the Severn, known locally as "the Quarry."

In the arrangement and superintendence of such performances, Ashton seems to have had great taste and skill, and it may well have been the fame of the yearly performances in the Quarry that first brought him to Shrewsbury. Owen records, in his MS. "Arms of the Bailiffs," that "Mr. Aston's first playe upon the Passion of Christ" was given in 1561, and Ashton was probably engaged in superintending its performance when the Bailiffs entertained him and another gentleman from Cambridge on May 25th of that year.<sup>1</sup>

Ashton seems also to have been acquainted at this time with Sir Andrew Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, near Shrewsbury, and may possibly have been acting as tutor to his sons<sup>2</sup> before he was appointed to the head mastership of Shrewsbury School. Two years previously he had graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and he was now a Fellow of that college.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Mr. Bayles spent upon Mr. Astone and a other gentellmane of Cambridge over pareadijs 20s." (Extract from *Exchequer Book* given by Owen and Blakeway.) The *pareadijs* is probably *vino di paradiso*.

<sup>2</sup> Sometime in the same year (1561) the Bailiffs entertained Ashton in an inn called "the Sextry" together with Sir Andrew Corbet's sons.

<sup>3</sup> In a letter from the Bailiffs to St. John's College, Cambridge, dated August 1st, 1583, Ashton is said to have been "some time of your Colledge." This seems to have been a mistake on their part. Ashton certainly graduated B.A. at Trinity College in January 1560.

An interesting proof that Ashton had some close connection with the Corbet family is furnished by the Shawbury Parish Register, from which it appears that, on June 8th, 1561, he acted as one of the sponsors at the baptism of Roger, son of Mr. Robert Corbet of Sobyck. Some time elapsed after Ashton's appointment before the school was in working order, but on December 28th, 1562, he was able to commence his register of entries with a school list of 266 boys. They are divided into seven classes,<sup>1</sup> and the names are given in school order. Inhabitants of Shrewsbury are entered as *oppidani*, and all other boys as *alieni*. The number of aliens in this school list is exactly the same as that of oppidans. Two other masters assisted Ashton in his labours—Thomas Wylton and Richard Atkys, the latter of whom continued at his post for twenty-six years. A note in the school register under the year 1568,

“TW. 23. Julii. decess. M.”

indicates the date of Wylton's resignation. Thomas Lawrence, B.A., of Clare Hall, Cambridge, succeeded him in the second mastership.<sup>2</sup>

Under Ashton's able management, Shrewsbury School prospered greatly, and in the course of the first six years of his mastership nearly 800 boys were admitted. Of these boys about 277 were oppidans. The rest were chiefly from Shropshire and the neighbouring counties, but some came from a considerable distance. Phillip Stringer, the first boy in the list of 1562, for example, was from Buckinghamshire.<sup>3</sup>

Unfortunately the only school list of Ashton's time is that of December, 1562, and we have no clue to the exact number of boys in the school at any particular time during the

<sup>1</sup> Later on, either from the increase of numbers, or the admission of younger boys, Ashton found it necessary to add two more classes, the eighth and ninth.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Wylton probably became Rector of Middle. A clergyman of his names, who held that cure, died July 5th, 1596, at “a good old age,” and was buried in Middle Church. The inscription from a brass plate which used to be over his grave is given in GOUGH's *History of Middle*. Thomas Wylton is there described as Gentleman, Preacher of God's Word, and Parson some time of this Church.”

<sup>3</sup> See COOPER's *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*.

remaining years of his mastership. But with an average annual entry of more than 100 the school numbers can hardly have fallen much below 400 during the six years in question.

Shrewsbury, it is evident, must have taken its place under Ashton's rule as the great Public School for the north-west of England. Nor can we doubt that such was the intention of its founders. The difficulties of travel in those days made it desirable that schools should be established at various centres to which boys residing in the surrounding districts might have convenient access; and Shrewsbury, as the "chief place of an extensive and fertile district," where the Court of the Marches of Wales was commonly held, and itself a town of considerable commercial importance, was a most suitable place for such a purpose, and one where a well-managed school would be likely to prosper.<sup>1</sup> That Shrewsbury School was regarded by people in general as intended for the benefit of the whole surrounding district, and by no means for that of the town of Shrewsbury exclusively, is sufficiently shown by the petition presented to Lord Burghley a few years later by the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, asking for the establishment of a school in that city "to serve as commodiously for the training of the Youth of South Wales as Shrewsbury doth for the Youth of North Wales."<sup>2</sup> The internal evidence of the school register of admittances is to the same effect.

We have already seen that in the course of six years Ashton admitted nearly twice as many *aliens* as *oppidans*, and a careful examination of the names shows that there was scarcely a family of note in the surrounding counties which did not send one or more of its youthful scions to be educated by Ashton at Shrewsbury. Egertons, Dones, Leighs, Brokes, and Massies, from Cheshire; Sandys and Butlers from Lancashire; Harringtons from Rutland; Foxes from Herefordshire, and Curzons from Buckinghamshire, are to be found in Ashton's register, side by side with

<sup>1</sup> See *Report of Public School Commission*, 1864.

<sup>2</sup> See STRYPE'S *Life of Whitgift*.



Charltons, Scrivens, Leightons, Hammers, Hollfords, Coplestons, Salusburys, Mores, Cotes, Barkers, Husseys, Burtons, Mainwarings, and many other representatives of the chief families of Shropshire and North Wales. But foremost in distinction among them all stand the names of Philip Sidney<sup>1</sup> and Fulke Greville, who were admitted on the same day, and whose intimate and lifelong friendship, commemorated by the survivor on his tomb, probably commenced at Shrewsbury.

Sir Henry Sidney, in his official position as Lord President of the Marches of Wales, resided at Ludlow Castle. In the course of his frequent visits to Shrewsbury on official business, Sir Henry would naturally become acquainted with Ashton.<sup>2</sup> At any rate, he cannot have failed to learn his high reputation as a teacher. The comparative nearness of Shrewsbury to Ludlow would also be some recommendation. It is not surprising, then, that the Lord President should have come to the determination to send his son Philip to Shrewsbury. He was admitted on October 17th, 1564, being at the time ten years old. On the same day, and doubtless at Sir

<sup>1</sup> *Philip Sidney* was born November 30th, 1554, at Penshurst in Kent. He was named after Queen Mary's husband, who had been escorted to England by his father a few months previously. On May 6th, 1564, the young Philip was made Rector of Whitford in Flintshire. He seems to have retained the Rectory all his life, paying £60 a year to a deputy. After staying at Shrewsbury a few months over three years Philip proceeded to Christ Church, Oxford, where he remained three years; but he does not seem to have taken a degree either at Oxford or Cambridge. He is traditionally stated to have been driven from Oxford by the plague in 1571, and to have taken refuge at Cambridge. From May, 1572, to June 1575, Philip Sidney travelled on the Continent. During his stay at Paris he lived with Walsingham, the English Ambassador, and was in his house at the time of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew on August 23rd, 1572. At Frankfort he first met Languet, with whom he remained on terms of intimacy for the rest of his life. It was for Languet that Sidney's portrait was painted by Paolo Veronese when he was in Italy in 1574. In 1576 Sir Henry Sidney, with his wife and son, accompanied the Queen in her visits to Kenilworth, Lichfield, and Chartley. At Chartley Philip probably met for the first time Penelope Devereux, his future "Stella." Two admirable letters, written to his brother Robert when he was abroad in 1578, are worthy of being put beside that written to him by his father. For further particulars about Philip Sidney, see his life by H. F. Bourne.

<sup>2</sup> Bourne makes a curious mistake in saying that Thomas Ashton and Sir Henry Sidney were contemporaries at *Oxford*.





FULKE GREVILLE, LORD BROOKE



Henry's suggestion, Fulke Greville, son and heir of Sir Fulke Greville of Beauchamp's Court, Warwickshire, and James Harrington, second son of Sir James Harrington of Exton, Rutlandshire, both of whom were first cousins of Philip Sidney, also entered the school.

The lives and friendship of Philip Sidney and Fulke Greville are too well known to need any detailed account here. Philip Sidney, poet, scholar, soldier, and the model of a Christian gentleman, died in 1586 in the flower of his age from the effects of a wound received at Zutphen. In a letter written during Philip's lifetime, his father describes him as "the light of his family,"<sup>1</sup> and Fulke Greville calls him "the prince of gentlemen." The whole nation seems to have joined in mourning his death. Fulke Greville, who shared his friend's poetical and literary tastes,<sup>2</sup> lived to fill many high State offices, and died at last at the age of seventy-four by the hands of an assassin.<sup>3</sup> While Philip Sidney was still at Shrewsbury School two letters of his to his father, one in Latin and the other in French, drew from Sir Henry a reply, which even at this day may be regarded as a model of fatherly advice. It was the first letter he had ever written to his boy, and, that being the

<sup>1</sup> *Sidney State Papers*, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> Philip Sidney and Fulke Greville were both of them members of a Literary Society called "Areopagus," which was founded by Gabriel Hervey.

<sup>3</sup> *Fulke Greville* was born at Beauchamp's Court in 1554. He matriculated at Jesus College, Cambridge, May 20th, 1568, as a fellow commoner, but does not seem to have taken a degree. His uncle gave him an office in the Court of the Marches of Wales in 1576, but he resigned it the following year. In 1578 he was attached to Walsingham's Mission in Flanders, and was again abroad in 1579, when he had an interview with "William the Silent." Both Philip Sidney and Fulke Greville were anxious to take part in Drake's expedition against the Spanish West Indies in 1575, but the Queen forbade them; nor would she allow Greville to join Leicester's army in the Low Countries in 1585. Fulke Greville was M. P. for Warwickshire in the Parliaments of 1592-93, 1597, 1601, and 1620. In March, 1597, he was made Treasurer of the Wars, and in September, 1598, Treasurer of the Navy. On the accession of James 1st in 1603 he was made a Knight of the Bath. In 1614 he became Chancellor of the Exchequer, and on January 29th, 1621, he was created Baron Brooke. On September 1st, 1628, Greville was stabbed by his servant while he was in bed, and he died from the effects of the wound on September 30th. See *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic*, and *Dictionary of National Biography*.

case, he did not wish it, as he tells his "little Philip," to be "empty of some aduices."

..... "Let your first action be the lifting vp of your minde to Almighty God by hartie praier, and feelingly digest the wordes you speak in praier with continuall meditation, and thinking of him to whom you pray . . . . marke the sence and matter of that you doo reade as well as the words. . . . 'Be humble and obedient to your master, for vnlesse you frame yourself to obey others, yea, and feel in your selfe what obedience is, you shall neuer be able to teach others how to obey you. Be courteous of gesture, and affable vnto all men, with diuersitie of reuerence according to the dignitie of the person, there is nothing that winneth so much with so little cost, vse moderate diet . . . . seldome drinke wine, and yet sometimes do, least being inforced to drinke vpon the sudden you should find your selfe inflamed, vse exercise of bodie, but such as is without perill of your bones or ioints . . . . delite to be cleanly as well in all parts of your body as in your garments . . . . giue yourselfe to be merie . . . . but let your mirth be euer void of all scurrilitie and biting words to any man, for an wounde giuen by a worde is oftentimes harder to be cured then that which is giuen with the sword; be you rather a hearer and bearer away of other mens talke, than a beginner or procurer of spech. . . . Be modest in ech assemblie, and rather be rebuked of light felowes for maidenlike shamefastnes, than of your sad friends for peart boldnes: Think vpon euery worde that you will speake before you vtter it . . . . aboue all things tell no vntruth, no not in trifles. . . . And let it not satisfie you that the hearers for a time take it for truth, yet after it will be knowne as it is to your shame, for there cannot be a greater reproch to a Gentleman than to be accompted a lyer. . . . Remember the noble blood you are discended of by your mother's side, and thinke that only by vertuous life and good action, you may be an ornament to that yllustre family, and otherwise through vice and sloth you may be accompted, Labes generis, a spot of your kin, one of the greatest curses that can happen to man. Well my little Philip, this is enough for me, and I feare to much for you. . . . Commend mee most heartily vnto Maister Justice Corbet,<sup>1</sup> old Master Onslowe,<sup>1</sup> and my Coosin his sonne. Farewell, your mother and I send you our blessings, and Almighty God graunt you his, nourish you with his feare, gouerne you with his grace, and make you a good seruant to your Prince and Country. Your louing Father,

HENRY SIDNEY."

<sup>1</sup> See note on next page.





SIR PHILIP SIDNEY

FROM A PAINTING, BY AN UNKNOWN ARTIST, IN THE HEAD MASTER'S HOUSE



Scarcely less affecting in its way is the postscript which Philip's mother, Lady Mary Sidney, wrote "in the skirts of my Lord President's letter," advising her "little Philip" to read over his father's letter once in every four or five days.<sup>1</sup>

Doubtless the training and influence of such a father and mother, tender, wise and unselfish, as they both seem to have been, had much to do with the formation of Philip Sidney's character; but we may well believe that those high qualities of mind and principle, which gained for Ashton so much influence, wherever he might be, whether at the Court of Elizabeth, or in the household of Walter, Earl of Essex, or among the burgesses of Shrewsbury, had their due effect also on the characters of the boys entrusted to his charge; and that the courtesy and unselfishness, which were such marked features of Philip Sidney's character, were due, in part, to his Shrewsbury education. To Ashton's scholarship and powers of teaching, the greatest Greek scholar of his day bears grateful witness.

In the school list of 1562 the name of Andrew Downes<sup>2</sup> appears in the 3rd class. After spending some five years more at Shrewsbury, Downes matriculated at St. John's College, Cambridge in November, 1567. He subsequently

<sup>1</sup> Justice Corbet was now a Justice of the King's Bench, but retained apparently the office of Recorder of Shrewsbury. The name of his successor, Sir John Throgmorton, does not appear in official documents before 1569. The first edition of the letter was printed by T. Dawson, of London, in 1591. A copy of this little book, which is now very rare, is in Shrewsbury School Library. It appears from the title page that the letter was written in 1566. "Old Master Onslow" was Sheriff of Salop that year, and doubtless both he and the Recorder had official apartments in the Council House.

<sup>2</sup> *Andrew Downes* was a native of Shropshire. Fuller speaks of him as "one composed of Greek and industry"; Bishop Montague calls him "a walking Library"; Symonds d'Ewes says that in his time he was "accounted the ablest Græcian of Christendom, being no native of Greece"; John Bois, who was his pupil, and has left a most graphic description of his eccentricities, acknowledges that he was "much bound to blesse God for him." Andrew Downes took part in the preparation of the Authorised Version of the Bible. It is worth noting, as a curious coincidence, that the next Shrewsbury man who was Professor of Greek at Cambridge, Dr. B. H. Kennedy, was one of the Company which revised the Authorised Version in 1881. For further particulars about Andrew Downes see FULLER'S *Church History*, PECK'S *Desiderata Curiosa*, Sir Symonds d'Ewes' *Diary*, and the *History of St. John's College, Cambridge* (Ed. MAYOR).



became fellow of his college, which he exchanged for Trinity when, in 1586, he was appointed Regius Professor of Greek. In 1593 the Professor published "*Lysiae defensio pro caede Eratosthenis, prælectionibus illustrata Andreae Dunaei*," and in its dedication to Robert, Earl of Essex, he pays a graceful tribute of respect and gratitude to his old schoolmaster who was then no longer living. He declares that, next to God and his parents, he owed most to him—that for nothing was he more grateful than for having had such a teacher, of whom all his pupils might well be proud—and that, among all the bitters of his life, this one happiness had come to him, and he could have had (he adds) none greater—that his father placed him when a boy under the care of that "most excellent man."<sup>1</sup> This is great praise; and the greater because, when it was written, Ashton was beyond the reach of flattery.<sup>2</sup> No wonder that under the auspices of such a man Shrewsbury should have become, in the words of Camden,<sup>3</sup> "the best filled school in all England." Many other pupils of Ashton played their parts in the world creditably enough to leave some memory of their names behind them. Some rose to distinction as lawyers.

Richard Barker,<sup>4</sup> second son of James Barker, Esq., of

<sup>1</sup> "A Thoma Ashtono mihi quoque erudiri contigerat . . . quem virum jam olim mortuum prunc idcirco honoris causâ nomino, quia secundum Deum et parentes, plurimum illi debeo: quicquid enim est in nobis literarum, aut humanitatis, aut ullius omnino boni, ille effecit, ille primus auctor fuit; nec de re ullâ sic Deo gratias ago quam quod illius providentiâ talem habui præceptorem, de quo omnibus qui alumni fuerunt ejus disciplinæ gloriari licet. Mihi vero inter tot adversa et acerba quæ vidi in vitâ, atque expertus sum, hoc unum tamen feliciter, atque ita ut non potuit melius, evenit, quod ad præstantissimum illum virum puer sum a patre deductus."

<sup>2</sup> Ashton died in 1578.

<sup>3</sup> The first edition of CAMDEN'S *Britannia* was published in 1586. Camden says that Shrewsbury School was "indebted for its flourishing state to the provision made by the excellent and worthie Thomas Ashton."

<sup>4</sup> *Richard Barker* was in the 3rd class at Shrewsbury in 1562. He was admitted a student at Gray's Inn in 1569, and was called to the Bar in 1571. In 1579 he was made "Ancient," and in 1594 "Reader," of his Inn. He represented Shrewsbury in the Parliaments of 1584 and 1604, and was a member of the Council of the Marches of Wales. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shropshire*; FOSTER'S *Admissions at Gray's Inn*.)

Haughmond Abbey, near Shrewsbury, became Recorder of Shrewsbury and a Judge of North Wales.

Sir Thomas Harries,<sup>1</sup> Bart., another Shropshire man, whose family lived at Cruckton Hall for more than 300 years, was made a Sergeant-at-law in 1589, and sat in the House of Commons during several Parliaments.

George Wild,<sup>2</sup> the father of Chief Baron Wild, was also a Serjeant-at-law, and twice filled the offices of Reader and Treasurer in the Inner Temple.

In Le Neve's lists too there may be found the names of several old Shrewsbury scholars of Ashton's time who received the honour of knighthood for serving the State in some capacity, military or civil. Among them are Sir George Maynwaring,<sup>3</sup> Sir Walter Levyson,<sup>4</sup> Sir Vincent Corbet,<sup>5</sup> Sir

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Harries* was eldest son of John Harries, Esq., of Cruckton. He was baptised at Pontesbury, January 23rd 1548, entered Shrewsbury School in 1565, and was subsequently admitted student of the Middle Temple. Knighted in 1603, and made a Baronet in 1624. M.P. for Callington, in Cornwall, in 1584, and for Portsmouth in 1586 and 1588. In 1592 and 1597 he represented Bossiney in Cornwall, and in 1601 Truro. Sir Thomas Harries purchased Tong Castle, which passed into the possession of the Pierrepoint family by the marriage of his only daughter. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; FOSS's *Lives of the Judges*; *Parliamentary Lists*, etc.)

<sup>2</sup> *George Wild* was son of Thomas Wild, Esq., of Ford and "The Commanders," Worcester. He entered Shrewsbury School in 1564. (FOSS's *Lives of the Judges*.)

<sup>3</sup> *Sir George Maynwaring* was the eldest son of Sir Arthur Maynwaring of Ightfield, Shropshire. His name stands first in the 2nd class in the school list of 1562. Admitted student of the Inner Temple in 1566. M.P. for Shropshire in 1572. Knighted in 1595.

<sup>4</sup> *Sir Walter Levyson* of Lilleshull Abbey, was the eldest son of Sir Thomas Levyson of Wolverhampton and Lilleshull, and grandson of James Levyson, a wealthy merchant, who bought the Abbey at the time of the dissolution of monasteries. He was in the 3rd class at Shrewsbury in 1562. M.P. for Shropshire in 1584, 1586, and 1588, and M.P. for Newcastle-under-Lyme in 1587, in which year he was knighted. Sheriff of Shropshire in 1576. Still living in 1634. His son, Sir Richard Levyson, was Vice-Admiral of England. (BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs*.)

<sup>5</sup> *Sir Vincent Corbet*, third son of Sir Andrew Corbet of Moreton Corbet, Shropshire, was born in 1554, and was in the 5th class at Shrewsbury in 1562. After leaving Shrewsbury he went to Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. of St. John's College in 1573. Survived his two elder brothers and succeeded to the family estates in 1606. Knighted by James I. at Greenwich in 1607. Died 1623. (BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs*.)

Francis Curzon,<sup>1</sup> Sir James Harrington,<sup>2</sup> grandfather of the author of *Oceana*, Sir Harry Harrington,<sup>3</sup> his brother, who played a somewhat prominent part in Irish affairs in the reign of Elizabeth, and Sir Humphrey Lee,<sup>4</sup> the first Shropshire Baronet.

Captain Humphrey Mackworth,<sup>5</sup> who served for many

<sup>1</sup> *Sir Francis Curzon*, eldest son of Vincent Curzon, Esq., of Addington, Bucks, was in the 5th class at Shrewsbury in 1562. Succeeded to the family estates in 1587. Knighted at Whitehall in 1603. Sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1599. Married Anne, daughter of Judge Southcote of Water Perry, Oxfordshire. Died October 31st, 1610. Buried at Water Perry. (BROWN WILLIS'S *History of Bucks.*)

<sup>2</sup> The mother of the two Harringtons was a sister of Sir Henry Sidney. Their father was James Harrington, Esq. (afterwards knighted), of Exton, Rutlandshire. *James Harrington* entered Shrewsbury School in 1564. He settled at Ridlington, Rutlandshire, and was Sheriff of the County 1593 and 1598. Created Bart. 1611. Died 1613. (*Baronetage of England*. PLAYFAIR, *Brit. Fam. Ant.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Harry Harrington* entered Shrewsbury in 1567, and appears to have settled in Ireland during the time Fitz-William was Lord Deputy, 1571-76. Writing to Lord Burghley, May 17th, 1575, the Lord Deputy highly commends Captain Harrington, and he is often spoken of by Sir Henry Sidney, after he succeeded Fitz-William, in his letters to Walsingham. Sir Henry was Harry Harrington's godfather, and knighted him before leaving Ireland in 1580. He also commended him to the notice of the new Lord Deputy, Arthur, Lord Grey, in a letter dated September 17th, 1580, in which he praises his "nobility of mind," and calls him his "nerest and derest friend and kinsman." Philip Sidney had also an affection for his "Cousin Harry" who was an assistant mourner at his public funeral in 1586. Sometime in 1577 Harry Harrington had a narrow escape of his life, having been captured by Rory O'More, owing to his having put "too much faith in those who have no skill in faithkeeping." He was rescued by some English soldiers, who surrounded the house where he was detained. Rory O'More managed to escape after inflicting several wounds on his prisoner. In October 1578 Capt. Harrington was Seneschall in the Byrnes' and Tooles' country, having probably been put in charge of that "subtle and wily people" on the death of his father-in-law, Francis Agard, Esq. This charge Harrington seems to have retained more than twenty years. About 1590 he was made a member of the Irish Privy Council. Sir Harry Harrington was twice married. By his first wife, Cicely Agard, he had two sons, John and James, both of whom were knighted. (See *Irish State Papers*; *Sidney State Papers*; *DEVEREUX'S Earls of Essex*; *BURTON'S Leicestershire*, etc.)

<sup>4</sup> *Sir Humphrey Lee, Bart.*, was the second son of Richard Lee, Esq., of Lee Hall, Langley, Salop. Entered Shrewsbury School 1566, and re-entered in 1571. Matriculated at Hart Hall, Oxford, in 1576, as Arm. Fil. of Salop, aged seventeen. Admitted student of the Inner Temple in January, 1577, and is said to have practised as a barrister with some success. His elder brother Walter having died without issue, he succeeded his father at Lee Hall in 1591. Sheriff of Shropshire in 1600. Created a Baronet in 1620. (GOUGH'S *Hist. of Middle*; *BLAKEWAY'S Sheriffs*.)

<sup>5</sup> *Humphrey Mackworth* was son of Mr. John Mackworth, Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1540, 1548, and 1557. He was in the 2nd class at Shrewsbury in 1562. Sir



years as a soldier in Ireland, having been originally taken or sent there by Sir Henry Sidney, and who was barbarously murdered by some Irish in 1582, was another pupil of Ashton.

Among the Shrewsbury boys of this time, who became clergymen, we find the name of Meredyth Hanmer,<sup>1</sup> who, after graduating at Oxford, was made Vicar of St. Leonards, Shoreditch, and subsequently Treasurer of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, Archdeacon of Ross, Treasurer of Waterford Cathedral, etc. He was author of a chronicle of Ireland, *An Ephemeris of Irish Saints*, translations of the Ecclesiastical Histories of Eusebius, Socrates, and Evagrius, and many other works. But Weever and Strype both relate anecdotes of him which throw some discredit on his name.

A boy named John Penry, or Penryn, who was also at school under Ashton, may not improbably be identified with the celebrated "Martin Mar-Prelate."<sup>2</sup>

Henry Sidney, who knew him from his youth, calling him "a boy of my own breeding," probably took the young Salopian with him when he went to Ireland in January, 1578, as Lord Deputy. Captain Mackworth's name is frequently mentioned favourably in the *Irish State Papers*, and when Sir Henry Sidney left Ireland in 1580, he described him to his successor, Arthur Lord Grey, as "the best worthy of the Captens" that he "left behind" him. Two years afterwards, in May, 1582, he was treacherously murdered by one of the O'Connors for whom he had procured a protection from the Government. (*Irish State Papers; Sidney State Papers.*) There is an interesting record of Captain Mackworth's death in the *Taylor MS.*, under the date, May, 1582.

<sup>1</sup> *Meredyth Hanmer*, who was at Shrewsbury School in 1562, was born in 1543. He was second son of "Ginta" Hanmer, of Porkington, Salop. He seems to have been a Chaplain of C.C.C., Oxford, in 1567; graduated B.A. in 1569, M.A. in 1572, B.D. in 1581, D.D. in 1582; Vicar of St. Leonards 1581-92; Vicar of Islington 1583-90. Weever says that while at St. Leonards Dr. Hanmer sold some of the monumental brasses for his own profit. Strype's anecdote relates to a trial of some nameless individuals for libelling the Queen and the Earl of Shrewsbury, in the course of which Fleetwood, the Recorder, censured Hanmer, who was one of the witnesses, as "disregarding his oath," and as having "dealt as lewdly with the Earl in speeches" as the man accused of libel. (See FULLER'S *Worthies*; WOOD'S *Athen. Oxon.*; NEWCOURT'S *Repertorium*; *Calendar of Irish State Papers*; *Blakeway MS.*, and *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *John Penry*, the noted Puritan, was born in Brecknockshire in 1559. He matriculated at Peterhouse, Cambridge, in 1578. The Shrewsbury boy entered school in February, 1568.

Robert Owen,<sup>1</sup> the Herald-at-Arms, to whom we are indebted for the interesting MS. *The Arms of the Bailiffs*, which is preserved in the school library, is another Shrewsbury worthy of these days whose name must not be passed over.

No details of the inner life of the school in Ashton's time have come down to us, but there can be no doubt that the Ordinances of 1578, of which Ashton was the chief author, present a faithful picture of the general system of school management during his mastership. A house and land had been bought from John Proude in 1551;<sup>2</sup> with this, and the property acquired by the Bailiffs in 1548, together with some adjacent buildings rented from Mr. Birrington,<sup>3</sup> of which the freehold was purchased in 1576, Ashton had to do the best he could. No such establishments as masters' boarding-houses were known at Shrewsbury in those days. Boys coming from a distance were "tabled" by residents in the town willing to receive them into their houses.<sup>4</sup> We are not told what were the position and duties of the seventeen boys whom Ashton has entered in the school register as "Pantlers";<sup>5</sup> but we may fairly conclude that their status

<sup>1</sup> *Robert Owen* was the eldest son of Richard Owen, Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1564, 1568, and 1573. He entered school in 1571. In after years Robert Owen became a Herald-at-Arms. He died in November, 1632, and was buried at St. Chad's. A MS. collection of the *Arms of the Bailiffs*, illuminated by him, and continued by other hands, was presented to the School library in 1668 by Joseph Baynes, his son-in-law, who describes Robert Owen as "authorised by the Court Marshall of England, a deputy Herald for Salop and several other adjacent counties."

<sup>2</sup> "Paid to John Prowde for a house and other lands and tenements for the free school 20*l*."—Extract from Corporation Accounts in *Blakeway MSS*.

<sup>3</sup> "1576. Sept 22. Roger Birrington. gen. s.h. Tho. B. gent. late alderman deced, grants to David Lloyd John Shele and 10 others (whereof Richard Owen, jun<sup>r</sup>, mercer, one) totum illud magnu' messuagin' quondam voc' Shotten place et unum voc' le Grammar Schole howse in quadam venele' voc' Rotten lane prope le Castle Gate."—*Blakeway MSS*.

<sup>4</sup> A painful incident illustrative of the system of "tabling" boys with residents in the town is recorded in the *Taylor MS*. under the year 1590. "This yeare and the 4<sup>th</sup> of May there was a young scholler beinge about XII. or thretteen yeares owld being burdid at master hamons in Salop hangid himselffe in the chamber where he did lye beinge a Walshe boye whose name was Reece ap John beinge an Idle boy and hatid the scoole."

<sup>5</sup> *Pantler* is derived from *pantlerius* or *pannetarius*, a low Latin word which means properly someone in charge of *bread*, a keeper of the *pantry*. The word

was something akin to that of sizars at Cambridge and servitors at Oxford, and that they were "tabled" at the expense of the parents of some of their wealthier school-fellows, for whom in return they performed some menial offices. In support of this view it should be remarked that all the Pantlers whose names occur in the register were "aliens." No mention is made of Pantlers after Ashton's time, and, in all probability, the institution died out with him.

Allusion has already been made to Ashton's partiality for dramatic performances, and his skill in arranging them. With such predilections it is not surprising that he should have made them a prominent feature of school life at Shrewsbury. He left it a standing regulation of the school that, on every Thursday, the highest form should, before going to play, "declaim and play one Act of a Comedy"; and the celebrity of the Whitsuntide Plays at Shrewsbury in Ashton's time is strong evidence of the pains he must have taken in training the boys for their performance. Every visitor to Shrewsbury has seen the beautiful grounds bordering the Severn which are known as "The Quarry." They must have presented a very different appearance in the fifteenth century, before the trees were planted, when they were nothing better than waste grounds outside the town walls. Portions of the *al fresco* theatre, in which the representations were given, are still to be seen.

Churchyard, the poet, seems to imply that the ground had been hollowed out for the purpose; but it is probable that its architects had an old quarry to work upon.

"There is a ground new made theator wyse,  
Both deepe and hye in goodlie auncient guise :  
Where well may sit ten thousand men at ease,  
And yet the one the other not displease.

"A grounde most apt, and they that sit above  
At once in vewe all this may see for love ;  
At Aston's playe, who had behelde thys then  
Might well have seen there twentie thousand men."

occurs three times in Shakespeare. "A good shallow young fellow: a' would have made a good *paniler*: a' would have *chipped* bread well."—Falstaff in *Henry IV.*, II. ii. iv. See also *Winter's Tale*, IV. iv., and *Cymbeline*, II. iii.



Churchyard<sup>1</sup> tells us that the theatre was used for wrestling, bull-baiting, bear-baiting and cock-fighting, as well as for plays. Although we must suppose that Churchyard's account of the numbers present at these dramatic entertainments is somewhat coloured by poetical exaggeration, we can have no doubt as to the great popularity that they enjoyed. Queen Elizabeth herself made progress as far as Coventry in 1566, in order "to see Mr. Aston's Play," which in that year is said to have been *Julian, the Apostate*; but she was too late, "it was ended."<sup>2</sup>

The writer of the chronicle known as the *Taylor MS.* makes special mention of one of these entertainments, which, he tells us, "lastid all the hollydayes," "great number of people of noblemen and others" coming to see it. He calls it "a notable stage playe played in Shrosberie in a place called the Quarrell," and adds that it was "praysed greatlye," and that "the chyffe auther thereof was one master Astoon, beinge the head schoolemaster of the free schoole there a godly and lernyd man who tooke marvelous greate paynes therein."

There can be little or no doubt that this "notable stage playe" was Ashton's second representation of *The Passion of Christ*, which Robert Owen calls his "greate playe," and which he assigns doubtfully<sup>3</sup> to the year 1567-68. The chronicler gives Whitsuntide, 1568, as the date of "the notable stage playe," the date, in fact, which Owen tells

<sup>1</sup> See CHURCHYARD'S *Worthines of Wales*. In a marginal note the poet calls Ashton "a goode and godlie preacher."

<sup>2</sup> See OWEN'S *Arms of the Bailiffs*. The Queen seems to have thought of visiting Shrewsbury on two or three occasions. In August, 1575, she got as far as Lichfield on her way to Shrewsbury, but, hearing that sickness prevailed within four miles of the town, she changed her mind and went to Chartley, Stafford, and Worcester instead. (*Taylor MS.*; NICHOLLS' *Royal Progresses*.) It appears from the Corporation Accounts for 1574-75 that £2 7s. 10d. was "given to the Queene's herbingier in gold and spent upon her graces s'vaunts resorting to this towne sondrye times this yeare concerning her grace's coming to this towne." (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.) Churchyard was sent by Sir Henry Sidney to Shrewsbury with letters about the royal visit, and received £3 6s. 8d. for his trouble. He was probably intended to provide similar rhymes for recitation at Shrewsbury to those he wrote for Bristol in August, 1574.

<sup>3</sup> OWEN'S *Arms of the Bailiffs*.



us was "recorded by some" as that of Mr. Ashton's "greate playe."

But in *Blakeway's MSS.* we find an extract from the Corporation Accounts, under the date of April, 1569, which indicates that the play that year was intended to be of exceptional importance. An agreement is there recorded that £10 should be given towards the maintenance of the play at Whitsuntide, over and above such sums as might be levied by the occupations of the town, or raised by private subscriptions. The town authorities further pledged themselves that if Mr. Ashton should declare by his honesty any more money to be wanting, the deficit should be defrayed by them. It is also certain that the Drapers' Company<sup>1</sup> voted £5, and the Mercers' Company<sup>2</sup> 30s. upon the same occasion, towards the expense of setting forth the play. Hotchkis says that the Corporation paid £25 1s. to Mr. Ashton in the year 1568-69 on account of the Whitsuntide play.

Remembering then that in the dates given in Owen's *Arms of the Bailiffs* for Ashton's various plays there is much confusion and uncertainty,<sup>3</sup> and that the writer of the *Taylor MS.* only began to compile his chronicle some time between 1577 and 1580,<sup>4</sup> and cannot, therefore, be regarded as an absolutely conclusive authority as to the date of the particular play he mentions, we may fairly conclude that the play which Churchyard had specially in his mind when he talked about twenty thousand spectators, "the notable stage playe" which "lastid all the hollydayes," and attracted great numbers of "noblemen and others" to "the Quarrell in Shrosberie" to see it, the play for the performance of which the Corporation and Trade Companies of the town made such liberal provision, was *The Passion of Christ*, and that it was performed at Whitsuntide, 1569.

Ashton's dramatic lessons were not thrown away, at least

<sup>1</sup> OWEN'S *Arms of the Bailiffs*.      <sup>2</sup> *Shropshire Archæol. Trans.*, vol. viii.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Owen was only a boy at the time when Ashton's plays were performed, and many years must have elapsed before the *Bailiffs' Arms* were illuminated and the historical notes were written on the blank pages.

<sup>4</sup> A full account of the *Taylor MS.* will be given in a later chapter on the school library.

on some of his pupils. At the Cambridge B.A. commencement of 1579<sup>79</sup>/<sub>80</sub> Dr. Legge's play of *Ricardus Tertius* was acted at St. John's College.<sup>1</sup> The names of the actors have been preserved, and we find among them no less than five old Salopians, Philip Stringer,<sup>2</sup> Richard Webster,<sup>3</sup> John Mehen,<sup>4</sup> Richard Harries,<sup>5</sup> and Abraham Fraunce.<sup>6</sup> The two last named, however, only entered school towards the end of Ashton's time.

After 1569 we seem to lose sight of Ashton at Shrewsbury, although the Indenture of Elizabeth, dated May 23rd, 1571, shows that at that time, nominally at any rate, he was still Head Master of the School.<sup>7</sup> By this Indenture the Crown made considerable additions to the school endowments, and the compiler of the *Taylor MS.* attributes the grant entirely to Ashton's exertions in the matter.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Camb. Antiq. Soc. Commun.*, vol. i. p. 356.

<sup>2</sup> *Philip Stringer's* name stands first in the school list of 1562. He was a native of Buckinghamshire, and was admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge, in June, 1565. B.A., 1568; M.A., 1571; Fellow, 1568; Senior Bursar, 1576; College Auditor, 1580; Esquire Bedell of the University, 1579; sent by the University to witness the reception of Queen Elizabeth at Oxford in 1592, and that of James I. in 1605; Solicitor to the University and J.P. for the Borough of Cambridge; acted the part of Nuntius in the play. (*Hist. of St. John's College, Camb.*, Ed. MAYOR; COOPER's *Athen. Cantab.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Richard Webster's* part was that of Fitzwilliam.

<sup>4</sup> *John Mehen*, a native of Shrewsbury, who was entered at school in the 8th class in 1566, and became subsequently its Head Master, played the part of Episcopus Mutus.

<sup>5</sup> *Richard Harries*, son of Mr. Roger Harries, of Shrewsbury, draper. Admitted at school 1571. B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1580; M.A., 1583; D.D., 1595; Fellow, 1580; Senior Fellow, 1593; College Preacher, 1590; Rector of Gestingthorpe, Essex, 1599; Rector of Bradwell-juxta-mare, Essex, 1613. His part in the play was that of Nuntius. Dr. HARRIES wrote in 1613 an answer to BECANE'S *English Jarre*, a book entitled *The English Concord*. (See *Hist. of St. John's College*, and an article in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society* (New Series) on the family of Harris of Boreatton.)

<sup>6</sup> The part of *Civis Londinensis* was assigned to *Abraham Fraunce*.

<sup>7</sup> Ashton is described in this Indenture as "now Schoolmaster of the said Grammar School."

<sup>8</sup> "1570-71. Eliz<sup>th</sup> 13. This yere one Mr. Aston, schoolemaster of the free schoole in Salop, beinge a good and zealous man towards the preferment of lernig in the same schoole made suyte of hys owne charge besyde greate labor to the queenes m<sup>tie</sup> and so obtaynyd to the mayntenance of the same schoole xxl. a yere more, w<sup>ch</sup> made it xli. a yere and sufficient fyndinge for the discipline of a master and 2 ushers."—(*Taylor MS.*)

Camden, whose *Britannia* was published in 1586, makes a similar statement, and both authorities agree in asserting that Ashton's suit to Her Majesty was made at his own expense. But the Corporation accounts for December 20th, 1571, show that this assertion was not strictly accurate, and that the town or school bore, at any rate, a portion of Ashton's costs.<sup>1</sup>

The somewhat irregular keeping of the school registers, and the great diminution in the number of entries during the years 1568, 1569, and 1570, render it probable that though retaining his post as Head Master, Ashton was at this time much away from Shrewsbury. The negotiations in which he was engaged with the view of obtaining an increase of the school endowments took him much to London, and brought him into contact, not only with several of Her Majesty's ministers, but with the Queen herself. In October, 1571, we find Ashton writing to Lord Burghley on the subject of the Duke of Norfolk's affairs in terms which appear to indicate confidence on his part that his expressed views on political matters would receive attention.<sup>2</sup>

There are letters also extant from Lord Leicester<sup>3</sup> and the Earl of Bedford<sup>4</sup> which show the high esteem in which he was held by these statesmen, as well as by the Queen. The grant made by the Crown to Shrewsbury School in 1571 was considerable, comprising the reversion of the Rectory of Chirbury in Shropshire, together with the tithes, oblations, profits, and emoluments which belonged to that Rectory, and the tithes of corn and hay in Wilmington, Wooderton, Stockton, Chirbury, Winsbury, Dudston, Walcote, Hockleton, Priest Weston, Marington, Tymbredth, Rorington,

<sup>1</sup> "Agreed that the 25*£* 10*s.* which Mr. Ashton hath disbursed in the obtaining of the grante of the Queene's Majestie that nowe is, concerning the free school shall be paid."—*Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> The letter was written from Charlecote. Ashton mentions that he had been travelling in Shropshire and the neighbouring counties, and it is possible that he was now staying at Sir Thomas Lucy's seat in Warwickshire. But there is a house called Charlecote in the parish of Aston Botterell in Shropshire, and that may have been his temporary residence.

<sup>3</sup> See *Irish State Papers*, Eliz. 42, 48.

<sup>4</sup> See *Lans. MSS.* vol. xiv., Letter to Lord Burghley, dated July 12th, 1572.



and Middleton, together with all other tenths, oblations, profits, and emoluments which belonged to the said towns and hamlets, as also the Parsonage of Chirbury with its glebe and the advowson of the Vicarage.

All these had belonged to the dissolved Priory of Chirbury, and had been leased first to Mr. William Snowball, a member of the Royal Household, in 1536, and second to Mr. William Bilmore in 1551. Both leases were for terms of twenty-one years, but the second lease was not to come into operation till the expiration by forfeiture or surrender or any other means, of the full term of the first lease.

The reversion of certain tithes in the town and fields of Albrighton, and in the Castle Foregate, and of certain lands and free rents in Astley and Sansaw, formerly belonging to the College of St. Mary, which were not included in King Edward's gift, was now made over to the school. The Queen's grant also included the profits arising from "Spiritual Jurisdiction" and the "Easter Book" which had belonged to the same College. In consideration of the whole grant, the school trustees were to pay the Crown an annual rent of £10 12s. 3d. They were also to provide the sum of £1 8s. 2d., payable annually by the Church of Chirbury to the Archdeacon of Salop for synodals and procurations, and a perpetual pension of £1 15s. 6½d. to the Bishop of Hereford, which had also been a charge on Chirbury. The stipends of the Vicars of Chirbury and St. Mary, and the Curates of Clive and Astley were also to be paid from school revenues. The Indenture is given at length in the Appendix.

At the time Ashton wrote his letter to Lord Burghley, the Council was engaged in investigating evidence recently obtained, connecting the Duke of Norfolk with plots against both Church and Crown, which had the personality of Mary Queen of Scots for their centre, and in which Spain and Rome and sometimes France had taken their share. The main objects which Ashton had in view were to make known to Lord Burghley the general state of political opinion in Shropshire and the neighbouring counties, and to recommend his friend Sir Andrew Corbet to the notice of the Council

as "the only staid man, most secret, true, and faithfullest to his prince," whom he knew, "in all those parts of the realm." But the whole letter is of great interest, not only as an illustration of Ashton's shrewdness and knowledge of affairs, but as affording a clue to the mystery which has always surrounded the discovery of Norfolk's treasonable dealings.<sup>1</sup>

About this time, if not before, Ashton entered into the service of Walter Devereux, Lord Hereford, who was created Earl of Essex in the following year. Lord Hereford's acquaintance with Ashton had probably been of long standing. Sir Henry Sidney, Sir George Bromley,<sup>2</sup> Mr. William Gerard, afterwards Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and Sir Andrew Corbet<sup>2</sup> were friends of his, and Mr. Edward Leighton, of Watelsborough, was his kinsman; and all these gentlemen had sons at Shrewsbury School in Ashton's time. Sir Andrew Corbet's knowledge of Ashton dated, indeed, in all probability from a time anterior to his appointment to the head-mastership of Shrewsbury. We know, too, that Walter Devereux occasionally visited the town from his Staffordshire or Carmarthenshire residences, neither of which was very far distant from Shropshire.<sup>3</sup> Under these circumstances it is not surprising that he should have formed a high estimate of Ashton's intellectual and business qualifications.

During the years 1568 and 1569 Lord Hereford was almost constantly engaged in the Queen's service<sup>4</sup>; first, in the unpleasant duty of keeping armed watch against any attempt to rescue Mary, Queen of Scots, who was then a prisoner at Tutbury; and afterwards in helping to suppress the northern rebellion under the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland.

It is possible that, even as early as this, Ashton may have taken some part in the superintendence of Lord Hereford's

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> Sir George Bromley and Sir Andrew Corbet are both named in his will as feoffees of his estates.—*DEVEREUX'S Earls of Essex.*

<sup>3</sup> Walter Lord Hereford was entertained by the Corporation of Shrewsbury in 1562 and 1573. (*OWEN and BLAKEWAY.*)

<sup>4</sup> See *DEVEREUX'S Earls of Essex.*



affairs during his frequent absences from his home at Chartley; but there is no doubt that after he had finally resigned the head-mastership of Shrewsbury, his time and energies were mainly given to the service of the Devereux family, and the education of Robert, the young heir of the House.<sup>1</sup> Ashton's letter to Lord Burghley, which has been already quoted, is quite sufficient to show that feelings of strong mutual confidence and respect had been the result of his previous intercourse with that great statesman in the school business, and it is probable that Ashton had a good deal to do with the negotiations consequent upon the offer which Lord Essex made to the Queen in the spring of 1573 to colonize Ulster. Essex set sail for Ireland on July 19th, 1573. In the Indenture of Elizabeth, of which mention has already been made, power was reserved to Ashton to make orders and constitutions as to the use and application of the new endowments which it conferred on Shrewsbury School.

The next we hear of him is from a letter which he wrote to the Bailiffs on October 27th, 1573, in reference to the framing of ordinances for the school. From this letter it appears that, in addition to the various duties he had to perform in connection with the affairs of Lord and Lady Essex, he was also employed directly in the service of the Queen, and that this employment in State business was no new thing with him.<sup>2</sup> "The Prince's business," "my Lord's affairs," and "my Lady's case" were occupying him so fully that it was impossible for him to comply with the Bailiffs' request that he would visit Shrewsbury.

<sup>1</sup> We know from the testimony of Andrew Downes that Ashton acted for some time as tutor to Robert Devereux. (See the Introduction to his *Lectures on "Lysiae defensio."*) Ashton himself speaks of his connection with the family affairs in a letter to the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, dated October 27th, 1573: and Andrew Downes tells us that his services were highly appreciated by the Devereux. The writer of the biography of Andrew Downes in the *Dictionary of National Biography* is in error in stating that Robert Devereux was at Shrewsbury School.

<sup>2</sup> Hotchkis has preserved copious extracts from Ashton's letters to the Bailiffs 1573-78; but the letters themselves unfortunately are not forthcoming. In the letter to which reference is made in the text, Ashton says that he was "entangled and tied by the Prince more streightly." (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

Ashton seems to have been much annoyed by some reflections that had been made on him for charging £6 for his expenses in London and Cambridge when consulting about the indenture and ordinances, and expresses a desire to be relieved of all care about the school.

On May 4th, 1574,<sup>1</sup> Ashton was sent to Ireland by the Government for the purpose of persuading Lord Essex "to stay his enterprise" in Ulster by making peace with Tirlogh Lenoghe,<sup>2</sup> the Ulster firebrand. His mission was successful, and the necessary negotiations with Tirlogh Lenoghe were subsequently carried on by Ashton in conjunction with the Dean of Armagh.<sup>3</sup> Lord Burghley notes in his diary on July 9th that the Earl of Essex had "compounded with Tirlogh Lenoghe."<sup>4</sup> While Ashton was in Ireland a serious difference arose between Lord Essex and Lord Leicester in consequence of reports coming to the ears of the former as to certain unfair practices against him in which Leicester was said to have engaged, and Leicester wrote two letters to Thomas Ashton in order to exonerate himself from the charge. His choice of Ashton as a mediator, the very friendly expressions he uses in his letters, and Lord Essex's subsequent congratulations to Leicester on his having chosen "so good an instrument," are strong evidence of the esteem in which he was held by both. The letter in which Lord Essex accepted Lord Leicester's explanations, dated October 7th, 1574, and other letters to Lord Burghley and the Council, were conveyed to England by Ashton.<sup>5</sup>

We learn from a letter written by the latter to the Shrewsbury Bailiffs on February 12th, 1574, that he had been

<sup>1</sup> This appears from Lord Burghley's notes on the Reign of Elizabeth given in the *Burghley State Papers*:—"May 4th, 1574. Ashton the priest sent to the Erle of Essex to persuade him secretly to stay his enterprise as he may with some reputation by concluding peace with Tirlogh."

<sup>2</sup> Terence O'Neil.

<sup>3</sup> See DEVEREUX'S *Earls of Essex*.

<sup>4</sup> See *Burghley State Papers*.

<sup>5</sup> See *Irish State Papers*, xlviii. (4) (4-1) and (5) and DEVEREUX'S *Earls of Essex*, where Lord Essex's letter to Leicester is given at length. "Ambition and Ingratitude" were sins which Leicester was supposed to have attributed to Essex.

offered some office or offices of emolument after his return from Ireland. For some reason or other he had not been disposed to accept the offer; but, after complaining bitterly of the apathy shown by the Corporation in the school business, he warned the Bailiffs that, if the completion of the matter were longer deferred, he would use his powers under the Royal Charter to settle the ordinances without them, accepting temporarily the appointments offered him, in order that he might be able to defray the costs of such an undertaking.<sup>1</sup>

In May, 1575, Ashton was again sent out by the Government to Ireland to convey a letter from the Queen to Lord Essex, in which she expressed her desire that his Ulster enterprise should be given up, "without dislike of him or danger to the State."

At the same time Ashton received instructions<sup>2</sup> from the Council to assure Essex of Her Majesty's good will towards him personally. Both letter and instructions bear the same date, May 22nd, 1575. It must be borne in mind that in the previous October Essex had written to Lord Burghley, expressing his conviction that the Queen disliked both him and his enterprise.<sup>3</sup> A very sensible and interesting letter, written by Lord Leicester to Ashton after he had arrived in Ireland, is preserved in the Record Office.<sup>4</sup> The date of May 9th, 1575, which is suggested on the original in pencil, is manifestly wrong, as the internal evidence of the letter shows distinctly that Ashton was with Lord Essex when it was written. It is evident enough that the letter was intended as a guide and help to Ashton in advising "his friend," as Leicester calls Essex throughout, and in order to assure him that he had kept his promise, made before Ashton set out, to do all he could to have Lord Essex's "enterprise well thought on," and to use his influence with his brother-in-law, Sir Henry Sidney, who had just been

<sup>1</sup> For a further account of this letter see the chapter on the Constitution and Customs of the school.

<sup>2</sup> See *Irish State Papers*, Eliz. li. 39, 40.

<sup>3</sup> *Irish State Papers*, Eliz. xlviii. 4.

<sup>4</sup> *Irish State Papers*, Eliz. li. 48.



re-appointed Lord Deputy, to make him "well affected and friendly to further his actions." A few words relating to Ashton himself may well be quoted as illustrating the high opinion formed of him by one of the prominent statesmen of the day. . . . "I am sure (your friend) wanteth not your best advice nor plain counsels. I would that he was as good a man of war for his sake as you are zealous and careful for his well-doing. Then I would wish you abroad longer than now I do, for want of faithful solicitors here of his counsel which I have found plainly enough since you went. . . ."

Ashton's stay in Ireland was brief, and before June 25th he had returned to London again, with Lord Essex's answer to the Council, and private instructions to make certain conditions for him. It may be noted that with most of these conditions the Queen and Council ultimately complied.<sup>1</sup>

In the course of the autumn of this year, at the Queen's express desire, Ashton was offered the Mastership of the Savoy Hospital; but he does not appear to have accepted the post.<sup>2</sup> No records are to be found of any further visit of his to Ireland. Lord Essex himself indeed returned to England in November, 1575; and his second visit to Ireland, in July, 1576, to be solemnly invested with his new office of Earl Mareschall, soon terminated in his death.<sup>3</sup> His will, made shortly before his end, shows the confidence he reposed in his friend Ashton, and the value which he set on his past services to him and his family. He left

<sup>1</sup> The chief conditions Lord Essex desired to make for consenting to give up the Ulster enterprise were that he should be allowed his disbursements, that the mortgage on his lands should be discharged, and that he should be created the Earl Mareschall of Ireland. (*Irish State Papers*, Eliz. lii. 17.)

<sup>2</sup> Leicester wrote to Burghley on October 2nd, 1575, to say that the Queen had desired him to confer with Burghley on the subject of the Savoy Hospital. They were to understand that she intended Ashton to have the Mastership if he liked it. But she had heard that sickness had been prevalent in the house, and Ashton was not to be allowed to go there if it should turn out that the sickness was of an infectious nature. (*Calendar of Hatfield MSS.*)

<sup>3</sup> Walter, Earl of Essex, died September 22nd, 1576. (DEVEREUX'S *Earls of Essex*.)

Ashton £40 a year for life, and made him one of the feoffees of his estates during the minority of his son.<sup>1</sup>

The young Robert Devereux, who had now been for some little time under the charge of Robert Wright,<sup>2</sup> an old Shrewsbury boy, and, like Ashton himself, a fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, took up his residence at his tutor's college in 1577, though he did not matriculate till two years later. It was at this time, apparently, that Andrew Downes, the Greek Professor, was introduced by his old schoolmaster to the young Earl of Essex.<sup>3</sup> In the meanwhile, the work of framing the school ordinances had made but slow progress, and Ashton had been obliged to renew his complaints on the subject, and once again to threaten the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, that, if the business were any longer delayed, he would take a new course, and settle matters in a manner more advantageous "for learning, though less beneficial to the town."<sup>4</sup> These remonstrances had the desired effect, and on May 22nd Ashton was able to congratulate the Bailiffs on their "reddiness to work all to the best." On June 10th he wrote again, promising to go to Shrewsbury so soon as he had "spoken once again to her Majesty."<sup>5</sup> No record of this visit is forthcoming, and it was not till May 15th, 1577, that Ashton announced to the Bailiffs that the ordinances were completed.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> DEVEREUX's *Earls of Essex*.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Wright was a native of Shrewsbury, and his name occurs in the 3rd class in the school list of 1562. He graduated B.A. at Trin. Coll., Camb., in January, 1571. In all probability he was made tutor to Robert Devereux on Ashton's recommendation, when the latter was sent to Ireland by the Government in May, 1574. Subsequently Robert Wright became steward to the young Earl, and was elected Burgess of Parliament for the borough of Shrewsbury in February, 1592, at the Earl's special request. (*Taylor MS.*) Essex was using all his influence at Tamworth, Stafford, Lichfield, Newcastle, and other places, to get members returned to this Parliament in his interest. (DEVEREUX's *Earls of Essex*.)

<sup>3</sup> See ANDREW DOWNES's Lectures on *Lysiae defensio*. "Eram tibi notus in Academiâ: habebam tum ad sublimitatem tuam ipse humilis, hanc commendationem atque aditum quod a Thoma Ashtone mihi quoque erudiri contigerat, qui teneros tuos susceperat annos."

<sup>4</sup> This letter is dated May 10th, 1576. (*Hotchkiss MSS.*)

<sup>5</sup> An indication that Ashton was still engaged in some way in the Crown service.

<sup>6</sup> All these letters, or abstracts of them, are to be found in the Appendix.



After the death of his friend and employer, Lord Essex, the arrangements for his funeral in Wales, the settlement of his affairs, and the necessity of deciding on the best course to take for Robert Devereux's education, were all matters in which Ashton's advice and help would naturally be much needed, and we cannot doubt that they were freely given. All this may well account for the new delay in the framing of the ordinances. Ashton himself, too, had been ill, and, as he tells the Bailiffs, had been obliged to entrust the final revision of the ordinances to others. His letter, which is given in full by Hotchkis and Blakeway, was written from Keiston, a manor house of the Devereux family in Huntingdonshire, whither Ashton had apparently gone to recruit his health.<sup>1</sup>

It is probable that some provision was made for Ashton by the Government after the death of Walter, Earl of Essex; for Robert Devereux, writing to Lord Burghley from Chartley on December 11th, 1576, expresses his gratitude for Burghley's letters in his "schoolmaster's behalf."<sup>2</sup>

The Shrewsbury Bailiffs took their time in dealing with Ashton's draft of the ordinances. It was not till January 4th, 1577<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, that they were referred to the consideration of a committee. After this time there was but little delay, as on February 11th, 1577<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, the common seal of the Corporation was ordered to be set to the "Indenture Tripartite," a document by which the Corporation of Shrewsbury, the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, Thomas Ashton, and Thomas Lawrence, the Head Master of the school, formally gave their consent to the ordinances.

<sup>1</sup> Robert Devereux was himself at Keiston in October, 1577, having retired there on account of sickness at Cambridge. (See letter from him to Burghley in Ellis' letters.) In another letter of March 31st, 1578, he calls this sickness "the plague," and expresses his pleasure in being back at Cambridge again from Keiston. (*Lansd. MSS.* xxvii. 1.) The young earl sold the manor of Keiston in 1590 to discharge a debt of £3000 to the Queen. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> Ashton is the only person to whom he can well be referring. Robert Wright was still his tutor, and acting at Cambridge in that capacity.

August arrived, however, before Ashton was able to journey to Shrewsbury, and set his seal also to the indenture. He preached a farewell sermon at St. Mary's Church, took leave of his old Shrewsbury friends, and returned to Cambridge, where, in less than a fortnight, he died.<sup>1</sup> Like his pupil, Philip Sidney, Ashton appears to have acquired in no ordinary degree the esteem and admiration of all with whom he came in contact, and, but for his comparatively early death, he would, we can hardly doubt, have attained some high position in Church or State. The poet Churchyard, who was a Shrewsbury man, Camden, the historian, who visited Shrewsbury when he was writing his *Britannia*, and when Ashton's memory was still green in the town, the writer of the chronicle known as the *Taylor MS.*, and the Corporation annals, all testify to the high regard entertained for Shrewsbury's great schoolmaster in Shropshire;<sup>2</sup> while the school ordinances, which will be spoken of at length in the next chapter, and the very remarkable and interesting letter which he wrote to Lord Burghley in October, 1571, are sufficient proofs of the wisdom, discretion, and other statesmanlike qualities which earned for him the confidence of the Queen and her Ministers.

<sup>1</sup> "This yere (1578) and ye xxix<sup>th</sup> daye of August beinge a fridaye, master Aston that godly father departid this presennt lyffe a lytyll besyde cambridge who before hys deathe cam to Salop and there prechid famously and did fynyshe and seale up Indentures to the full acomplyshmet and anvytie of cxxl. for the sufficient fyndinge of the scoolemasters there w<sup>ch</sup> he of hys greate suyte before was a traveler to the queene's m<sup>tie</sup> for the augmentacon to that anval porshyon and so fynysginge all things gyvyng the sayd towne of Salop frindly farewell and w<sup>thin</sup> a fourteene dayes after dyed."—*Taylor MS.*

<sup>2</sup> Ashton is often mentioned in the annals of the Mercers' Company at Shrewsbury as having been asked by the company to arbitrate in some disputed matter. (*Shropshire Archaeological Society's Transactions*, vol. viii.) Another local testimony to the general esteem in which Ashton was held occurs in a letter which Mr. Thomas Browne, a Shrewsbury draper, wrote to the Queen towards the end of 1574, where he describes him as "a man, God be blessed for him, that hath done much good in Shropshire." (*Lansdowne MSS.*, cx.)





EDWARD THE SIXTH

FROM A PAINTING, ASCRIBED TO ZUCCHERO. IN THE HEAD MASTER'S HOUSE

## CHAPTER II.

### *Constitution and Customs of Shrewsbury School in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.*

THE original Charter of Edward VI., which bears date February 10th, 155 $\frac{1}{2}$ , gave power to the Bailiffs and burgesses of Shrewsbury to appoint the Master and Under Master of the school whenever vacancies in those offices should occur, and also, with the advice of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, to make ordinances for the general government of the school. But the right of making such ordinances was subsequently expressly reserved by the indenture of Elizabeth, dated May 23rd, 1571, to Thomas Ashton, clerk, who is there described as "now Schoolmaster" of "the Free Grammar School within the Town of Salop founded by the late King Edward the Sixth," and, in case of his dying before the ordinances were made, to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry and the Dean of Lichfield. The framing of these ordinances was not completed for several years. The delay seems to have been due partly to Ashton's public and private engagements, which were so heavy as to make him at one time desirous of being "discharged from any further care about the school,"<sup>1</sup> and partly to differences of opinion between him and the Bailiffs. One of these differences arose out of a proposal to use some of the surplus revenues of the school for the redemption of tolls and the relief of poor artificers. On November 7th, 1573,<sup>2</sup> Ashton wrote to the Bailiffs, urging them to agree to the alteration of

<sup>1</sup> Ashton writes to this effect from Chartley on October 27th, 1573. (See letter in Appendix.)

<sup>2</sup> See letter in Appendix.



an ordinance which had been already made to that effect, and the devotion of the funds in question to "the finding of a third master."<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs of the year, who had only recently been elected, and were not responsible for the views of their predecessors, seem to have consented at once, on the very sufficient grounds that "the School's money" should "serve only the School's use," and Ashton, with praiseworthy policy, gave them all the credit of proposing the change. At the same time he pointed out to them that after providing ample stipends for three masters there would still be sufficient surplus to assist poor scholars of Shrewsbury to go to the universities.

The school had at the time a "dead stock" of £200, and Ashton was desirous of expending this money on the purchase of a plot of ground on the other side of the street, belonging to Sir Andrew Corbet, with the view of ultimately building "a fair school" thereon. He describes the existing school-buildings as "old and inclining to ruin," and regards the site, on account of its proximity to the Common Gaol, and for other excellent reasons, as "an Evil Place."

The letter in which Ashton deals at length with these matters is dated February 20th, 157 $\frac{3}{4}$ .<sup>2</sup> On May 4th, 1574, he started for Ireland, and did not return to England till the following October. On February 12th, 157 $\frac{4}{8}$ , we find him writing in strong terms to the Bailiffs as to their apathy in the school business, and hinting, not indistinctly, that interested motives were the cause of their frequent delays. He further threatens them that, if they did not

<sup>1</sup> A third master probably means a third assistant master. There were already three masters in the school. Hotchkis says that in the ordinances, as first proposed in April, 1572, provision was only made for two masters and a poor scholar to help them. But Ashton's threat on November 7th, 1573, that, if the Bailiffs did not agree to his proposal about a third master, he would frame the necessary ordinances, and appoint one himself, shows that an *additional* master to the three already in office was contemplated. Ultimately it was arranged to have an accident school for beginners, and the fourth master was put in charge of that.

<sup>2</sup> This letter, which is given both by Hotchkis and Blakeway, was printed at length in the *Report of the Public School Commission*.

look to the matter better, he would use his power under the Queen's indenture to settle the ordinances without them, accepting temporarily certain appointments which had been offered him, in order to defray the cost of such an undertaking.<sup>1</sup>

Two years later (on May 10th, 1576) Ashton wrote in a similar strain, reiterating his former complaints, and telling the Bailiffs plainly that, sooner than allow the business to be any longer deferred, he would "take a new course," and "establish the thing more surely for learning, though less beneficial for the town hereafter." These last remonstrances seem to have had the desired effect, and on May 22nd, 1576, Ashton was able to change his tone towards the town authorities, and acknowledge their readiness "to work all to the best." A fortnight later, on June 10th, we find him promising to go to Shrewsbury after he had "spoken once again to her Majesty." In a year from this time the ordinances were completed, and on May 15th, 1577, Ashton sent the final draft to the Bailiffs for their approval, telling them in his letter that he had been obliged to entrust their last revision to "certain worshipful, wise, learned, discrete personages," whose "credytt and judgment" would "wynne to the mater more maiestie and procure it more credit than yt ever could have had by" his "owne private doing." Finally, the ordinances were accepted by an "Indenture Tripartite," dated February 11th, 1577<sup>7/8</sup>, between the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield of the first part, the Bailiffs and burgesses of the town of the second part, and the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, Mr. Ashton, late Head Master, and Thomas Lawrence, Head Master, of the third part. And by these ordinances the school was governed until, more

<sup>1</sup> "Before God, if you look not better to it, I will alter all anew. My credit it not so much lost but if it be thought I have done what I can, and by law am barred to go any further, and, by that is done, some holes be espied to creep in at, to make a spoil, I will work upon my credit what I can to prevent it, whatsoever it cost me. It shall but make me take such livings which now are offered, to bear the charges thereof, and to give them over when I have done." (See Appendix.)

than two hundred years later, they were repealed by Act of Parliament in 1798.<sup>1</sup>

Statutes for the government of the school seem to have been made by the Bailiffs in 1571, under the powers given them by the Charter of Edward VI. They may have failed to realize that Elizabeth's indenture of May, 1571, had deprived them of these powers; or perhaps Ashton and the Bishop may have assented to their temporary revival. At any rate, we find a complete school list in the register of admissions under the date January 11th, 157 $\frac{1}{2}$ , at the head of which it is stated that the "new statutes" had come into force on Christmas-day, and that all the boys in the school, whether aliens or oppidans, whether they had been at school before Christmas, or were now admitted for the first time, had been called upon to pay certain entrance fees. The amount of his fee is written against the name of each boy. The table of fees seems to have been 5s., 4s., 3s., 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d., 1s. 4d., 1s., 8d., 6d., and 4d. But after 1575 the scale of fees<sup>2</sup> appointed by Ashton's Ordinances of 157 $\frac{1}{2}$  was practically in use. It is evident that, in fixing the amount of the entrance fee, account was taken of the rank of the father as well as of the place of his residence. All the boys are entered either as aliens or as oppidans, and the latter are invariably charged a smaller fee than the former. Sons of knights or esquires

<sup>1</sup> At an Assembly of the Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Common Council of Shrewsbury, held on January 4th, 157 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the proposed ordinances were referred to a Committee consisting of the two Bailiffs, Mr. Thomas Sherer and Mr. Thomas Charlton, Mr. Thomas Aston (late Head Master), Mr. Richard Prince, Mr. Edward Davies, Mr. Lawrence (Head Master), Mr. Robert Ireland (Bailiff in 1554-55), Mr. Thomas Burnell (Bailiff in 1571-72), Mr. Beacoll, Randle Russell, John Pearch (Bailiff in 1579-80), and Edward Owen (Bailiff in 1582-83). The Committee seems to have had doubts whether the grants made under the Charter of Edward VI. could be legally employed in founding scholarships and fellowships at the universities. But they were reassured on the matter by Sir George Bromley, who wrote to the Bailiffs on January 9th, 157 $\frac{1}{2}$ , that the proposed ordinances could be carried out without infringing the Patents of Edward VI. And at a further Assembly on February 11th, 157 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the common seal of the town was ordered to be set to the "Indenture Tripartite." (See *Report of Public School Commission.*)

<sup>2</sup> There is, however, one fee of 3d. recorded.



are noted by the letters MF or AF put opposite their names, an H being added in the case of the eldest son. Sons of past or present Bailiffs of the town are generally described as BF. The fees at first seem to have been entirely employed in the "reparations or other charges of the school."

After February, 157 $\frac{7}{8}$ , Ashton's Ordinances came into force at once, and examples of their working may be continually found in the school register. Of these ordinances, which are all contained in a schedule attached to the "Indenture Tripartite," some are called "Ashton's Ordinances" and others "Bailiffs' Ordinances." But there can be no doubt that they were all in the main framed by Ashton himself.<sup>1</sup>

The former contain regulations as to the number and salaries of the masters, the management of the school property, the employment of its revenues, and the proceedings to be taken in filling up vacancies in the cures of St. Mary, Shrewsbury, and Chirbury. The latter deal chiefly with the internal affairs of the school, the hours to be devoted respectively to work and to play, the games in which the boys might indulge, the qualifications and duties of the masters, the disciplinary supervision of "aliens" who were "tabled"<sup>2</sup> with householders in the town or suburbs, and the books to be used in school. A vivid picture of school life at Shrewsbury in those days and for many generations after might be sketched out from these ordinances.

The rents and tithes arising from the school property were collected by an officer called the School Bailiff,<sup>3</sup> who received

<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs' Ordinances are formally described in the Indenture Tripartite as made "by the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Town of Salop, by the advice and consent of the Reverend Father in God, Thomas, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and of Mr. Asthon, alias Ashton, Clerk, late head schoolmaster." It appears from a letter preserved in the borough records, written by Sir George Bromley to the Bailiffs on January 9th, 157 $\frac{7}{8}$ , that he had given Thomas Ashton considerable assistance in drawing up the ordinances.

<sup>2</sup> Masters' boarding houses were unknown at Shrewsbury School for many years after its foundation.

<sup>3</sup> Ashton had appointed David Longdon to be School Bailiff before October, 1573, for in that month he told the Bailiffs that they must call upon his "servant David Longdon for security." The office was subsequently secured to him by the ordinances. In order, probably, to ensure his payment, Ashton gave Longdon

an annual stipend of £4, and for whom two sureties had to give security to the amount of £300.<sup>1</sup> Every year, on November 16th, his accounts were audited in "the Exchequer,"<sup>2</sup> by the Town Bailiffs and the Head Master, and the Bailiffs at the same time audited the Head Master's account of his receipts from entrance fees. On the following day all these accounts, as well as the school ordinances, were publicly read by the Town Clerk in the presence of the Bailiffs, Aldermen, Common Council, and burgesses, and the business of the day was concluded by a banquet, on which the Bailiffs were allowed to expend 20s. The residue of the receipts from all sources, which was known as the "Stock Remanent" was placed by the auditors in a chest<sup>3</sup> which was kept in the Exchequer, and provided with four locks and four keys. These keys were severally in charge of the two Bailiffs, the Head Master, the senior Alderman, and the senior Common Councilman. The Bailiffs and Head Master were allowed during the year to expend ten pounds out of

the reversion of the lease of the Frankwell and Betton tithes. (See Ashton's letter of February 12th, 1574.) Richard Painter had the lease up to 1584 at a rent of £3. David Longdon's name appears first as tenant, at the audit of 1585, at the rent of £20. Longdon died in 1586, but his widow seems to have farmed the tithes of Frankwell and Betton till the expiration of her husband's lease. Besides being School Bailiff, Longdon was one of the Serjeants of the town, and in 1579 he was made a Serjeant-at-Mace. He was a shoemaker by trade. (*Taylor MS.*, and school account-book.) Hotchkis gives the name of the second School Bailiff as Lloyd, but his name appears in the school accounts as *John Coyde*. An oppidan of that name was at school in 1562. No provision was made in the ordinances for the appointment of Longdon's successor. But, on the advice of counsel, it was agreed that the election should rest in the hands of the Bailiffs and Head Master. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,024.) The name of Geo. Phillips is joined with that of Coyde in the audit of 1598; and after that it occurs alone. He held office till April 10th, 1635.

<sup>1</sup> The amount of the School Bailiff's security was doubled in 1613 by decree of the Court of Chancery.

<sup>2</sup> The Exchequer appears to have been a strong-room in the Guildhall, originally erected in 1490, and used by the municipal authorities for official meetings. The Corporation records, as well as the school chest, were kept in the Exchequer. In November, 1613, two burglars effected an entry into the Exchequer and broke open the school chest, from which they took £229 7s. 6d. Both were sentenced to death, but the sentence was only carried out on one, who was hung in the Market Place. (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

<sup>3</sup> On October 27th, 1573, Ashton told the Bailiffs that "with the first money" that came in they must buy "an iron chest," (*Hotchkis MSS.*)



the school chest at their discretion for the repairs of the school house and the masters' lodgings, as well as for legal, travelling, and other necessary expenses. For the repairs in question the School Bailiff was to receive a sum not exceeding £5 at the November audit in each year,<sup>1</sup> rendering an account the following November of the details of his expenditure during the year.

No more than £10 might be taken out of the school chest at one time for any purpose without the consent of St. John's College.<sup>2</sup> The Stock Remanent was intended to accumulate with the view of:

1. Building two masters' houses.
2. Building a library and gallery.
3. Building a country school-house, to which the masters and scholars might resort in time of plague or sickness.
4. Founding two scholarships and two fellowships at St. John's College.
5. Founding other scholarships and fellowships at some college or colleges in Oxford or Cambridge.

In the case of the scholarships and fellowships first-named, preference was given by the ordinances:

1. To legitimate sons of burgesses—
  - (a) Natives of the town:
  - (b) Born in the suburbs or Abbey Foregate.
2. To boys born within the franchises of Shrewsbury.
3. To natives of Chirbury.
4. To natives of the county of Salop.

<sup>1</sup> On November 16th, 1587, at the annual audit, the Bailiffs of the year, Geo. Higgins and William Jones "wold not allowe 5*l* to be taken out of the stocke remanente and to be dd to the bailiff of the schoole w<sup>h</sup> was wonte to be done before according to the ordinances of the schoole." (See school register.)

<sup>2</sup> The Bailiffs and Head Master, on March 20th, 1598, took the opinion of the Recorder and two other lawyers as to the charges which might legally be made on the Stock Remanent, and the purposes for which money might be taken from the school chest without the consent of St. John's College. On the first point the ordinances seem clear enough, and the referees content themselves with quoting the purposes specified in ordinance 8, and adding thereto, necessary repairs at Chirbury, and in the school chapel at St. Mary's, and the Catechist's salary. Their advice on the other point seems hardly in accordance with the ordinances.

The election was entrusted to the Master and Seniors of St. John's College, who, apparently, had the power of rejecting candidates who were not found "apt and meet for such preferment." Subject to these provisions and qualifications they were to choose "the godliest, poorest, and best learned" of the candidates.<sup>1</sup>

No preferential claims are mentioned in the ordinances in connection with the fellowships to be subsequently founded at unspecified colleges, but an opinion was given by the Justices of Assize and the Recorder of Shrewsbury on June 30th, 1623, in answer to questions put to them by the Bailiffs and Head Master, that all scholarships and fellowships founded out of school funds would be, under the ordinances, subject to the preferential claims already detailed.<sup>2</sup> The appointment of the curate of St. Mary, Shrewsbury, rested with the Bailiffs and Head Master. They were directed to select for the post a graduate educated at the school, with a preference

- (1) To the son of a burgess,
- (2) To a native of Chirbury.

In default of "fit" candidates with such preferential claims the curacy might be given to "any of like sufficiency."

The curate's stipend was fixed at £20, and he was not allowed to be absent from his cure more than one month in the year, except on account of sickness or urgent business, which had to be established to the satisfaction of the Bailiffs and Head Master. Before proceeding to the election of a curate the Head Master was duly "sworne to graunte his voice frelie to hym that he thinketh moste worthy withoute

It was that the consent of the college need not be obtained for *any* expenditure on the objects specified above. (*Hotchkiss MSS.*) In the year 1628-29, the Bailiffs took out of the school chest in separate sums of £10, no less than £500 to be expended on the new school buildings. There is no reason for doubting that the money was so expended, but the action of the Bailiffs was a deliberate evasion of the ordinances.

<sup>1</sup> After many delays and much angry correspondence between the college and Bailiffs, two scholarships were at last founded in September, 1623, although no scholars were elected till November, 1624.

<sup>2</sup> See Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,024.

eyther rewarde, briberie, or other covine fraude, or deceit whatsoever."<sup>1</sup>

Provision was made by the ordinances for four school-masters, with stipends of £40, £30, £20, and £10 respectively. The Head Master, it was stipulated, must be a Master of Arts of two years' standing at least, "well able to make a Latin Verse," and "learned in the Greeke Tongue." The second master was also to be a Master of Arts possessing similar qualifications to those required for the Head Master. For the third master the degree of B.A. was required. He was also expected to be able to make a Latin verse. No qualifications are specified for the fourth master, who was to take charge of the "Accidence School" for young beginners, which the ordinances directed to be kept under or near the grammar school.

None of the masters were allowed during their term of office to take any cure of preaching or ministry in the church, or practise physic or any other art or profession, whereby their service in the school should be hindered.<sup>2</sup>

No provision was made in the ordinances for the election of a new accidence master when a vacancy should occur in the office. Roger Kent, the first accidence master, died on November 12th, 1588, and his place was left unfilled till January 23rd, 158<sup>8</sup>/<sub>9</sub>, on which day Mr. Ralph Jones was "chosen and elected" to succeed him by the Bailiffs and Head Master.<sup>3</sup> The delay was doubtless occasioned by the absence of any direction in the ordinances as to the mode of election.<sup>4</sup> Whenever one of the other masterships fell vacant the remaining masters were to give notice of the

<sup>1</sup> Similar regulations were made for the other school livings. Natives of Chirbury had the first preferential claim to its vicarage.

<sup>2</sup> This regulation seems to have been almost ignored in the eighteenth century.

<sup>3</sup> See school register.

<sup>4</sup> Subsequently, in March, 159<sup>0</sup>/<sub>1</sub>, the Bailiffs and Head Master took the opinion of Thomas Owen, Esq., the Recorder of Shrewsbury, Thomas Egerton, Esq., Solicitor General, and Thomas Branthwaite, Esq., Reader of Lincoln's Inn, on this and other matters in doubt, and their decision was that the accidence master should be elected by the Bailiffs and Head Master, and that two of the electors, of whom the Head Master was to be one, must agree in their choice. (*Hotchkiss MSS.*)



vacancy to the Bailiffs, whose duty it was within twenty days to signify the same to the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, requesting them to "elect and send" an "able meet and apt man." In choosing a master, the college was to be guided by the same order of preferential claims which has been already specified in the regulations as to scholarships and fellowships hereafter to be founded. The Town Bailiffs were to "nominate and appoint" the man chosen by the college "if they should think him worthy." But if they had any reasonable cause for misliking him, they were to signify the cause to the college authorities, who must then proceed to a new election.<sup>1</sup>

The second master, however, might be promoted to the head-mastership by the Bailiffs with the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, if he had occupied his post for two years, and had shown himself qualified for the higher duties, and the Bailiffs and Head Master were allowed under similar circumstances to promote the third master.<sup>2</sup>

Provision was made for the formal admission of new masters to their rooms by the Bailiffs, and also for a certain amount of conviviality upon such occasions.

The appointed school hours were—

From Lady Day to All Saints' Day.	{ 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. 12.45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
From All Saints' Day to Lady Day.	{ 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. 12.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (if daylight served). <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs soon began to endeavour to encroach on the college right to "elect and send" masters. On August 1st, 1587, after informing the college of the death of Atkys, the third master, they went on to recommend William Bayly, B.A., as his successor. Similarly, on October 31st, 1594, they recommended Ralph Gittins, B.A., to succeed Bayly in the third mastership. Ultimately they went much further, and claimed "the chiefest stroke" in the selection of new masters, spending no less than £300 in 1635-36 in an unsuccessful attempt to place their own nominee in the office of Head Master. In 1724 the Bailiffs reasserted their right to appoint masters, basing their claim upon the Charter of Edward VI., but their election was set aside by the Court of Exchequer, and, on appeal, by the House of Lords. (See *Holchkis MSS.* and *Hist. of St. John's College.*)

<sup>2</sup> Several instances of such promotions occurred in the 17th and 18th centuries.

<sup>3</sup> No candles were allowed to be used in the school for fear of "breeding disease" or "peril otherwise."

The scholars were summoned by a bell which was rung a quarter of an hour before each school,<sup>1</sup> and prayers were said at the beginning of morning lesson and at the end of evening lesson.

Immediately after prayers the whole school was called over, the second and third masters taking their turn to call the roll and say prayers every other week. Every Thursday was a play day unless a holy day occurred in the week, and no other play day was allowed except by the consent of the Bailiffs and at the "earnest request and great entreaty of some man of honour, or of great worship, credit, or authority."<sup>2</sup> Before going to play on Thursday the scholars of the highest form had to declaim and play one act of a comedy. The only games permitted at the school were "shootinge in the longe bowe," "chesse plaie," running, wrestling, and leaping. Although the boys were allowed to play their games for limited stakes, 1*d.* a game and 4*d.* a match, all betting, "openlie or covertlie," was forbidden; and offenders against this regulation were to be "severely punyshed" or else "expulsed for ever."

The school broke up three times in the year—at Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide—the duration of the holidays at these three seasons being respectively 18 days, 12 days, and 9 days.

To each master was allowed 30 days' absence during the year, over and above the regular vacations; but only one could be away at a time. Masters might also absent themselves from school, with the approval of the Bailiffs, if called by urgent business.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In the school account-book an entry occurs in 1579 of the payment of 20*s.* to William Benett, parish clerk of St. Mary's, for ringing the bell called the school bell, which in those days was one of St. Mary's church bells.

<sup>2</sup> Among the school records in the Town Hall there is a formal permission, signed by the Bailiffs, for the boys to play on Tuesday afternoon, May 4th, 1613. It was granted at the earnest request of the worshipful Mr. Francis Gibbons, M.A., and is addressed to Mr. Gittins. The Head Master, Mr. John Meighen, was doubtless away.

<sup>3</sup> Provision was made in the ordinances for the case of a master "infected with any lothesome, horrible, or contagious disease," or who might, by reason of



All masters, on admission, had to swear that they would not spoil or defraud the school of any of its property. The lower masters swore, in addition, that they would not keep back any of the entrance money. The Head Master had to swear that he would keep a true register of all scholars admitted to the school, and render a just account of all entrance fees received.<sup>1</sup>

The dinner hour was 11 a.m.

A certain amount of knowledge was required from a boy before he could be admitted to the Grammar School. He was expected to be able to write his name, to read English perfectly, to "have his accidence without the book," to give "any case of any number of a noun substantive or adjective," and "any person of any number of a verb active and passive," and to "make *a latten* by any of the concordres, the *latten* wordes beinge first given him."

The amount of the entrance fee payable on the admission of a boy depended partly on the father's rank in life, and partly on his place of residence. If any boy were a week late in returning to school after the holidays, unless he were hindered by "sicknes or other urgent cause," the fee had to be paid over again.<sup>2</sup>

"greate age, sicknes, or imbecilitie," be unable to serve. In the former case the master was to be removed by the Bailiffs, and "charitable relief" was to be given from school funds. In the latter, he was to pay half his wages to a substitute during his incapacity, the substitute teaching in one of the lower schools. But a year's grace was to be given in this case, during which time no diminution was to be made in salary, and the work was to be done by the other masters with the help of their scholars.

<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs seem to have been in the habit of requiring the Head Master to swear to his accounts every year at the audit. But on November 16th, 1609, Meighen, having discovered that this oath was not enjoined by the ordinances, informed the Bailiffs that he should take it no longer. It was decreed by the Court of Chancery in 1613 that the Head Master should in future, at the time of the audit, take the same oath about leases and expenditure which was required from the Bailiffs, and should also, when admitted to office, enter into bond and covenant to keep the ordinances. (See *Hotchkiss MSS.*)

<sup>2</sup> If a boy were sent away from school for disobedience or breach of school rules, it was specified that he should not be received again unless his friends answered to the two senior masters "for his obedience and good abearing in all things." In case of his re-admission the entrance fee would have to be paid over again.

The scale of entrance fees was as follows<sup>1</sup> :—

	s.	d.
A lord's son	10	0
A knight's son	6	8
The heir apparent of a gentleman	3	4
Younger sons of gentlemen	2	6
Under these degrees and born outside Shropshire	2	0
Under these degrees and born in Shropshire.	1	0
Sons of burgesses dwelling in the town or liberties of Shrewsbury, or in the Abbey Foregate (if of ability)	0	4
Sons of other persons there inhabiting.	0	8

Householders in Shrewsbury and its suburbs were expected to "cause and see" their children who were at school, and all other boys who might be "tabled" in their houses, to, "resorte to theire parishe church euerie sondaie and holy-day to heare divine service at morning and evening praier"; and monitors were appointed by the Head Master for each church to note any scholars who misbehaved themselves or were absent from service. In case of a sermon being preached in any church, all scholars were to "resorte thither to the hearing thereof."

The school books in use were—

For Latin Prose :—

Tully, the *Commentaries* of Cæsar, Sallust, Livy, and two little books of Dialogues drawn out of Tully's *Offices* and *Lodovicus Vives* by Mr. Thomas Ashton.

For Latin Verse :—

Virgil, Ovid, Horace, and Terence.

For Greek :—

Greek Grammar of Cleonarde, Greek Testament, Isocrates, and Xenophon's *Cyropædia*.

<sup>1</sup> Sums of 3*d.*, 2*d.*, and 1*d.* seem occasionally to have been accepted, probably on the ground of poverty, for sons of burgesses. In 1580 four boys are credited with fees of 6*d.* These may have been sons of oppidans (not burgesses) who were excused a portion of the 8*d.* fee on the same ground.

It was further provided by the ordinances that if any difficulty should arise as to their interpretation, it was to be referred to Mr. Thomas Ashton (during his life), the Recorder of Shrewsbury, and two lawyers nominated by the Bailiffs and Head Master.<sup>1</sup> Power was reserved to Ashton to frame additional ordinances which might be necessary for the government of the school; and for these ordinances the Bailiffs and Head Master were directed to have due consideration.

It may be seen by these ordinances that have now been described at some length, that Shrewsbury School was placed under a kind of threefold government.

The Bailiffs of the town exercised a joint control with the Head Master over the issue of new leases of school property and the expenditure of school revenues; but further security was taken for their due administration by the institution of an annual audit of accounts, and the provision that no sum greater than £10 could be taken out of the school chest at one time without the express permission of the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge.

In the interests of education Ashton took care that the election of new masters should be given to a society of learned men who would be under no temptation to subordinate fitness for magisterial duties to local claims or private interest. The Head Master too would have a more *independent* position, if chosen in this way, than if he were elected by the Bailiffs, and would consequently be a more efficient guardian of the school property.

It is not to be doubted that Ashton saw the educational mischief likely to ensue from the preferential claims by which the college authorities were fettered in their choice of masters. But his position was difficult. Under the Charter of Edward VI., the Bailiffs were intrusted, not only with the appointment of masters, but with the whole government of the school.

<sup>1</sup> By a decree of Lord Chancellor Ellesmere, on June 28th, 1613, the Bailiffs and Head Master were directed to refer cases of difficulty to the Justices of Assize and the Recorder. Several instances are recorded of this being done. (See *Hotchkiss MSS.* and Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,024.)

They had also the right, subject to the advice of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, of making statutes and ordinances for its administration. To deprive them of all voice in the appointment of masters, and of all share in framing the new ordinances, would probably have had the effect of making the Corporation of Shrewsbury hostile, rather than friendly to the school, and Ashton was too much of a statesman to run the risk of exasperating a body, the members of which were, after all, the only persons available to share with the Head Master the local government of the school. So, while securing to the college the real choice of the masters, he left to the Bailiffs the right to "nominate and appoint them," with the power of exercising a "veto" in any particular case for "reasonable cause." And, although the indenture of Elizabeth expressly reserved to Ashton the power of making "rules, orders, and constitutions" for the application of the Great Tithes of Chirbury and other endowments to "the better maintenance of the Free Grammar School founded by the late King Edward the Sixth," and other specified objects—and there can be no doubt that the school ordinances of 157 $\frac{7}{8}$  were, in the main, Ashton's work—he steadily persevered to the end in his fixed resolve to obtain for them the full assent of the Corporation of Shrewsbury before they were promulgated. Policy, too, rather than the interests of education must have influenced Ashton when he gave to Shrewsbury burgesses preferential claims for their sons, not only to livings, scholarships, and fellowships, but even to school masterships. For we find him, on one occasion, irritated by the apathy shown by the Corporation in the matter of the ordinances, threatening, in case of further delay, to take a new course, and "establish the thing *more surelie for learning*, though less beneficial for the town hereafter."<sup>1</sup> Surely this is a conclusive proof that Ashton did not consider *local interests* altogether conducive to *the interests of learning*, and that, in favouring the former, he allowed policy sometimes to sway his judgment.

In all these cases, however, we find some provision made

<sup>1</sup> This threat is to be found in Ashton's letter of May 10th, 1576.



in the ordinances to prevent undue abuse of the preferential claims. Shrewsbury boys, whatever their rights of birth might be, were not to be elected to school scholarships and fellowships at Cambridge, unless they were found "meet and apt for such preferment." Candidates for the cures of Chirbury and St. Mary might be sons of burgesses or natives of Chirbury; but, if the electors did not consider them to be "fit men," they were to be at liberty to appoint "any of like sufficiency," any clergyman, in fact, who possessed the other statutable qualifications of education at Shrewsbury School, and a degree at one of the universities. In the case of schoolmasterships, the proviso that privileged candidates must be "thought worthy of the place" enabled the college to prevent any serious injury being done to the school by these preferential claims. James Brooke, who was elected second master in 1627, was not even a scholar of Shrewsbury. David Evans, who was made third master at the same time, though educated at the school, was neither the son of a burgess nor a native of Shropshire. And when the college had, for the second time, to appoint a Head Master, the eminent man who, after prolonged litigation between the Corporation of Shrewsbury and St. John's College, ultimately received the appointment, was neither the son of a burgess nor a native of Shrewsbury.

On the whole, the form of government which Ashton instituted for Shrewsbury School seems to have been the best available under the circumstances. It was essential that the Bailiffs should have a share in it, both on account of their position under the Charter of Edward VI., and also, as the natural guardians of the various rights and privileges it was thought best to give to the burgesses and other inhabitants of the town. But the Bailiffs were changed year by year, and it was important to associate with them, in the government of the school, someone who occupied a more permanent position. The best man for such a purpose would undoubtedly be the Head Master. His interest in the prosperity of the school would naturally be great;



presumably, he would be unaffected by local intrigues ; his influence in the town, too, would be increased by the co-ordinate authority with the Bailiffs in the government of the school, which was given to him by the ordinances. It seems also to have been an act of the soundest policy in those days to confide the choice of new masters to the governing body of a great college, fettered though the electors might be by the preferential claims they were bound to consider. Ashton's knowledge of the world and business experience again had taught him the strong probability, as the surplus revenues of the school gradually accumulated, that zealous members of the Corporation would look with greedy eye upon the "Stock Remanent," and desire to appropriate it, not for their own private advantage, but in order to redeem tolls, to pension "poor artificers," to build almshouses, or to promote some other objects, interesting to the burgesses, but of no advantage to the school. Some such ideas, indeed, were afloat at Shrewsbury even before the ordinances were framed, as is sufficiently shown by Ashton's correspondence with the Bailiffs. So the College of St. John was made the supreme guardian of the school chest. It is interesting to know that Ashton, before the grant of Elizabeth, which secured for him the right to frame ordinances, was made, had not only seen how important it was for the future interests of the school that he should have this power, but had written to the Bailiffs urging them to give it him of their own accord. The letter in question, which exists among the town records, but escaped the notice of Hotchkis and Blakeway, will be found in the Appendix.

### CHAPTER III.

Thomas Lawrence, M.A., Head Master, 1571-1583.

THE name of Thomas Lawrence stands fifth in the school list of 1562, where he is described as an "alien." Blakeway says he was a native of Wem.<sup>1</sup> From Shrewsbury Lawrence proceeded to Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in January 1566-7, as a member of Clare Hall. Subsequently, on March 21st in the same year, he was elected a fellow of St. John's College. There is no doubt that Thomas Wylton, who was the second master in 1562, left Shrewsbury on July 23rd, 1568, the date of his departure being recorded by Ashton in the school register. Now it is distinctly stated in the "Indenture Tripartite," that Lawrence had filled the office of "under master" in Ashton's time. He must, therefore, have succeeded Wylton immediately; for, in writing to the Bailiffs on July 9th, 1583, he mentions that he had occupied his "publicke charge" at Shrewsbury "almoste for the space of full xv. years."<sup>2</sup> The time, in fact, that had elapsed between the date of Wylton's departure and that of Lawrence's letter was fifteen years all but fourteen days. There is no evidence as to the exact time when Ashton resigned his head-mastership and was succeeded by Lawrence. Blakeway, indeed, tells us that Ashton resigned in 1568, having been requested by Walter, Earl of Essex, to superintend his household at Chartley, in Staffordshire, during his own absence in Ireland.<sup>3</sup> But it is certain that Walter, Lord Devereux, was not Earl of Essex in 1568, and was not absent, nor intending to be absent, in Ireland in that year. He was not created Earl of Essex till 1572, and did not set

<sup>1</sup> *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix.

<sup>3</sup> *Blakeway MSS.*

sail for Ireland till 1573. And there is strong reason for believing that Blakeway is equally incorrect in giving 1568 as the year of Ashton's resignation. Ashton was certainly still at Shrewsbury on October 8th, 1568, when the Bailiffs and burgesses agreed that all the tithes granted to them in the Charter of Edward VI. should be made over to him and his heirs in fee farm, "so well were they satisfied with him."<sup>1</sup>

We hear of him again in April, 1569, when the bailiffs voted £10 towards the maintenance of the Play at Whitsuntide, speaking of Ashton in such a way as to make it certain that he had not yet left the place, and that he was intending as usual to superintend the performance of the Play.<sup>2</sup> We must bear in mind, too, that no mention of Lawrence as Head Master occurs in the school register before 1571, and that in the indenture of Elizabeth, which bears date May 23rd, 1571, Ashton is spoken of as "*now* schoolmaster of the said Grammar School." In the farewell letter which Lawrence wrote to the bailiffs on July 9th, 1583, he speaks with natural pride of having sent more than one hundred scholars to Oxford and Cambridge in *the past twelve years*. Why should he have limited himself to twelve years if he had been, as Blakeway asserts, Head Master for fifteen years? We may assume then as certain that Lawrence became Head Master of Shrewsbury some time during the year 1571.<sup>3</sup> Whatever

<sup>1</sup> The extract from the Corporation Orders is given in the *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> 1569, April. "Agreed y<sup>t</sup> there shall be given oute of the treasure of the towne ye some of £10 towards the mayntenance of the playe at Whitsontide over and above such money as shall be levied by all the occupacons of the Towne or any other that will give any money towards the same: and farther y<sup>f</sup> that Mr. Ashton shall declare by his honestie that ther shall be wantinge of any money rather than yt Mr. A. should therbye be a loser that then yt money wanting shall likewis be discharged by ye towne."—*Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> It is evident that Blakeway took the "publicke charge," of which Lawrence speaks as having continued for nearly fifteen years, to refer to his head-mastership only, and not to *the whole time* of his magisterial work at Shrewsbury. Counting back fifteen years from 1583 he got 1568 as the year of Ashton's resignation. Blakeway's mistake has unfortunately misled all writers who have dealt with the history of Shrewsbury School since his time, though he was not the first person to misunderstand Lawrence's expression, as is shown by the list of masters in PHILLIPS'S *History of Shrewsbury*. It would even appear from their letter to St. John's College that the Bailiffs to whom Lawrence wrote his farewell letter were under the same misapprehension. (See Letters in Appendix.)

may have been the cause, there had been for the three or four previous years a lamentable falling off in the number of boys entering the school. In the years 1568, 1569, and 1570, respectively, only 37, 22, and 33 names were placed on the register. But things began to improve in the following year. In the course of the eight months following May 15th, 1571, there were 61 new entries; and a school list of January 11th, 157½, shows a total of 201 boys.

From that time until Lawrence's resignation in 1583 Shrewsbury School seems to have flourished greatly, and to have enjoyed a widespread reputation, although its work was seriously hindered for a long time by an outbreak of the sweating sickness which visited the town in 1576, or perhaps earlier.<sup>1</sup>

Lawrence did not keep the registers, at any rate in the early part of his time, with sufficient method and precision to enable us to ascertain the annual number of entries between 1571 and 1577. All that we can tell for certain is that there were in all 169 boys entered between January, 157½, and the time when the school broke up on account of "the plague." But after 1577, the year in which were promulgated the new ordinances which provided among other things for an annual audit of accounts by the Bailiffs and Head Master on November 16th, we are able to obtain from the register the exact number of entries in each year; 152, 132, and 114 are the respective totals in three consecutive years, beginning from November 16th, 1580. No complete

<sup>1</sup> We find in the *Taylor MS.* a statement that in 1575 "the queene's m<sup>tie</sup> went a p<sup>g</sup>resse towards Shrewsbery, but because of deathe within a IIII miles of the same she cam no further thā Lycheffild and from thence went to Worcester." On October 6th, 1575, before going to the election of new Bailiffs, an order was issued by the Corporation that no infected person should resort to the Guildhall during the making of officers, a plain proof that the disease was then in the town or immediate neighbourhood. The plague was still raging in September, 1576. Early in the month five persons of the name of Revell are recorded to have died of it in the parish of St. Julian. The Fair on St. Matthew's day (September 22nd) was held at Kingsland, on account of the plague, and the sitting of the County Court was transferred to Meole Brace for the same reason. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.) It is also mentioned in the *Taylor MS.* that Mr. Hawckswoorthe, Curate of St. Chadde, and Mr. Roger Barnes, Curate of St. Alkemoonde, both died of the plague some time in 1576.



school list of Lawrence's time, except that of January 11th, 157 $\frac{1}{2}$ , is in existence. But it so happens that, on May 2nd, 1581, the boys made a military display in honour of Sir Henry Sidney in a field in the Abbey Foregate, called "The Geye," and the compiler of the chronicle known as the *Taylor MS.*, who gives an account of it, incidentally mentions that the number of boys present on the occasion from the four schools was 360.

We shall not be far wrong then in assuming that the average number of boys at Shrewsbury during the best part of Lawrence's time was not far short of 400. It was in 1586, we must remember, only three years after Lawrence resigned, that Camden wrote of Shrewsbury as "the best filled school of all England." The school numbers are one evidence of its prosperity at this time, and another is the petition sent by the Dean and Chapter of Hereford to Lord Burghley in 1582 asking for the endowment of a Grammar School at Hereford, which might "serve as commodiously for the training up of the youth of South Wales as Shrewsbury doth for the youth of North Wales."<sup>1</sup> In the chronicler's account of the Pageant at "the Geye" in 1581 mention is made of *four* masters. An Accidence School "for young beginners" had now been opened, of which Mr. Roger Kent was the master. Mr. John Baker, M.A., had succeeded Lawrence as second master. He may be identified with certainty as the John Baker whose name occurs in the 3rd class in the Shrewsbury school list of 1562, and who is described there as an oppidan.<sup>2</sup> Now, in the same class, and only two places below John Baker, we find the name of Robert Wright. We know that Robert Wright graduated in January, 157 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and if, as is but reasonable, we put John Baker's degree about the same time, it is evident that he cannot well have become second master earlier than 1571,

<sup>1</sup> STYVE'S *Life of Whitgift*.

<sup>2</sup> In 1583 the Bailiffs wished Mr. John Baker to be promoted to the head-mastership, and, in a letter to St. John's College, mentioned that he possessed the necessary qualifications. He must therefore have been educated at the school, and the son of a burgess. (See Letter in Appendix.)



an incidental proof, and a strong one, that Lawrence did not succeed to the head-mastership before 1571.<sup>1</sup>

Richard Atkys still taught in the third school. The staff of masters as thus described continued unchanged in Lawrence's time. The Head Master seems, though not in Holy Orders,<sup>2</sup> to have been a man of strong religious feelings. His letters have a religious tone, and Hotchkis quotes a petition which he and his colleague, John Baker, presented in the year 1579-80 to the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, that they might be allowed the use of "the Stone House" on Sundays and holy days, in order that the boys and themselves might assemble there for religious purposes. The two masters represented that, although they were laymen, they could read prayers there, and all the masters could be present, and that they were too many for one church.<sup>3</sup>

Before Lawrence ceased to be Head Master a chapel in St. Mary's Church was "repaired and beautified" at the school-cost, in order that the masters and scholars might assemble there on Sundays, holy-days, and half-holidays for divine service and religious instruction.<sup>4</sup>

A curious incident, in which Lawrence and Atkys were concerned, is related in Strype's *Life of Whitgift*, and the story is worth repeating. On January 15th, 1578, Thomas Lawrence and Richard Atkys appeared before Mr. George Bromley, Recorder of Shrewsbury, at Eyton, near Wroxeter, and "uttered their knowledge" of certain disorders committed by Lady Throgmorton and others in the house of Mr. John Edwards, of Thirsk, in Denbighshire. Mass had been said there by a priest from "beyond the seas," who had also given to those who were present "pardon beads" and images

<sup>1</sup> There is no trace of John Baker's name in Cole's List of Cambridge Graduates in the *Harleian MSS.* A student of Christ Church, Oxford, of his names, graduated B.A. in 1571 and M.A. in 1575. But he undoubtedly went to Christ Church from Westminster. It is possible, though not probable, that the Shrewsbury boy may have gone to Westminster some time between 1562 and 1568.

<sup>2</sup> Lawrence was churchwarden of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, in 1579.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.* Ashton had previously rented the Stone House for some unknown use. A house bearing this name still exists near St. Mary's Church.

<sup>4</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.* The letter from St. John's College, authorizing the necessary expenditure, bears date September 24th, 1582.

of the "Agnus Dei." The "Chief Sayer of Mass" was a Mr. Hughes, who was acting at the time as tutor in the family of Sir John Throgmorton, Chief Justice of Chester. It was alleged that Mrs. Edwards had been by night to Holywell<sup>1</sup> on St. Winifred's Eve to hear Mass, and that Mr. Hughes and other Roman priests had rechristened children, and had buried people by night in order to avoid the use of the Church of England service.<sup>2</sup>

Whatever may have been their motive in laying this information, the conduct of the two masters speaks more for their zeal than their charity. But, in fairness to them, we must bear in mind the close connection which existed at this time between religion and politics. In 1570 Pope Pius IV. had published a Bull, absolving the Queen's subjects from their allegiance. Seminary priests and Jesuits had at once poured into the kingdom, and, as was generally believed, were not content with ministering to the religious needs of those who adhered to Rome, but stirred up their disciples against the Queen. Rumours of plots against the life of Elizabeth filled the air. Under such circumstances some excuse perhaps should be made for those who regarded, as many Englishmen did at this time, every Roman priest as a traitor, and every Papist as his tool.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Chapel of St. Winifred, built over the sacred well, was close to the town of Holywell, in Denbighshire.

<sup>2</sup> The Recorder laid the matter before Bishop Whitgift who, in the absence of Sir Henry Sidney, presided over the Court of the Marches of Wales, and the Bishop having communicated with her Majesty's Council, a Commission of Oyer and Terminer was sent down, (*STRYPE'S Life of Whitgift.*) Blakeway gives the story from Strype, but with several inaccuracies. (*Blakeway MSS.*)

<sup>3</sup> An interesting example of the prevalence of fears and prejudices on this score may be seen in the letters which Thomas Browne, a draper, of Shrewsbury, whose name has been erroneously connected by historians with the discovery of the Duke of Norfolk's share in treasonable conspiracy in 1571, wrote to Queen Elizabeth early in 1575. Mr. Gerard, a leading member of the Council of the Marches, had not taken a sufficiently serious view of a plot which Browne fancied he had discovered in Shrewsbury, and the chief object of Browne's letters was to draw her Majesty's attention to Mr. Gerard's inefficient discharge of his magisterial duties, as well as to the unsoundness of his religious views. Mr. Gerard was made Lord Chancellor of Ireland shortly after this time. The letters are preserved in the *Lansdowne MSS.*, cx. 17, in the British Museum, and copious

The liking Lawrence had for pageants, which seem to have occupied as prominent a position in his time as dramatic performances in the days of his predecessor, tends rather to make it probable that his objections to Papists and *outlandish* priests were more political than puritanical. The most elaborate of these displays took place in May, 1581. Sir Henry Sidney had arrived in Shrewsbury the previous month in order to celebrate the Feast of St. George with special solemnity and splendour. The festivities commenced on April 22nd, St. George's Eve, and lasted about a fortnight, during the whole of which time Sir Henry kept open house at the Council House.

On St. George's Day the Lord President attended divine service at St. Chad's Church, proceeding thither in state, arrayed in his robes as a Knight of the Garter, and followed by the Bailiffs and Aldermen in their scarlet gowns, together with the members of the various trade companies of the town "in their best liveries."<sup>1</sup> On May 1st the schoolmasters took their part in the entertainment of Sir Henry. After supper on that day they seem to have gone in procession to the Council House, each at the head of a deputation of boys belonging to his school, who bare with them "a brave and costly banquet" of forty dishes. As each group of ten boys went forward and presented its ten dishes, the boys were introduced by a *Shewer*<sup>2</sup> in the following lines:—

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| "Larrance, 1. | { These are all of Larrance lore<br>Acompt hys hart above hys store.                 |
| backer, 2.    | { These x are all of backer's bande<br>Goode wyll not welthe now to be scande.       |
| Atkys, 3.     | { Thesse x are all in Atkys chardge<br>Hys gifts are small hys good wyll lardge.     |
| kennt, 4.     | { Thesse x coom last and are the least<br>Yett kennt's good wyll ys with the beast." |

extracts are given by Owen and Blakeway. The whole subject, including Browne's supposed connection with the Duke of Norfolk's affair, is discussed in a paper in the Shropshire Archæological Society's *Transactions* for 1893.

<sup>1</sup> See *Taylor MS.*

<sup>2</sup> *The Shewer* was in old days the title given to an officer who set and removed the dishes at a feast, and brought water for the hands of the guests.



PHILIP AND ROBERT SIDNEY

FROM THE PAINTING AT PENSHURST





And someone, in all probability the Head Master himself, explained and apologised for the gift in the following epigram :—

“En mittunt librum libram non mittere possunt  
Virgam non vaccam mittere quisque potest.”<sup>1</sup>

Then, on the next day, May 2nd, came the military display which the boys made in “the Geye.”<sup>2</sup>

On May 8th Sir Henry took his departure, leaving Shrewsbury by water. He embarked in his barge at the foot of Castle Hill, under a salute of cannon and musketry, and proceeded towards Atcham. About a quarter of a mile off certain chosen scholars had been placed to make “there lamentable oracons to Sir Henry, sorrowinge his departure.” The boys were “apparelyd all in greene,” and had “greene wyllows uppon their heades”; and so pitiful were their lamentations, and so effectively spoken, that they “made many bothe in the bardge uppon the water, as also people upon land, to weepe, and my lorde hymselffe to chandge countenance.” Certainly, the character of the “lamentable oracons,” made, in turn apparently, by the nymphs of the Isle, the Woods and the Hills, would account, in some measure, for the change of countenance which the chronicler, with an irony which was perhaps not altogether unconscious, attributes to Sir Henry. He admits that the “oracons” of “the nymphs” were “somewhat tedious,” and gives only the concluding lines of the last nymph’s song :—

<sup>1</sup> See *Taylor MS.*

<sup>2</sup> 1581. “The seconde daye of maye all the scollars of the said free scoole . . . beinge in number cccx. w<sup>h</sup>e theire mast<sup>r</sup> before eūy of them marchinge bravely from the free scoole in battel order w<sup>h</sup>e theire generalls, captens, droomes, troompets and Ensigns before them through the towne towards a lardge filld callyd the Geye, beinge in the Abbey suburbes of Salop and there devydinge theire bandes in iiij. parts met the sayde lord p<sup>r</sup>sident, beinge upon a lusty courser, invyroninge hym aboute, and cam to hym, the generall openinge to hys lordship hys purposse and assembly of hym and the reast, thē he w<sup>h</sup>e the other captens mad their oracons howe valiantly they would feight and defend the coontrey. At w<sup>h</sup>e the saide lorde had greate pleasure and mutche reioysed, gyvyngre greate prayse to the sayde master for the eloquence thereof.”—*Taylor MS.*

" And wyll yo<sup>r</sup> honor needs depart  
 And must it needs be soe  
 Wold god we could lycke fishes swyme  
 That we might w<sup>th</sup> the goe  
 Or els would god this lytill Ile  
 Were stretched out so lardge  
 That we one foote might follow y<sup>e</sup>  
 And wayte upon thy bardge.  
 But seinge we cannot swyme  
 And Ilelands at an ennde  
 Saffe passage w<sup>th</sup>e a shorte returne  
 The myghtie god thee sende."<sup>1</sup>

It seems to have been customary whenever Sir Henry Sidney, or any other man of distinction, visited Shrewsbury for two or more scholars, selected for the purpose, to address him in a set oration. Doubtless the orator did not forget to ask of "the man of honour" to make his "earnest request and great entreatie" that the boys might have an extra holiday that week. We find accounts in the *Taylor MS.* of such orations having been made in 1573, 1578, 1580, 1581, 1582, 1584, and 1585.

In 1578 Sir Henry Sidney, who was on his way from Ireland<sup>2</sup> to London, brought with him "an Irish Earl, a Lord and the Earl's Son," and certain other Irishmen, being "enemies to the Queen's Majesty," whom he had taken prisoners in a skirmish. As usual an oration "by one of the free scoole" formed part of the reception arrangements. The Irish Earl was undoubtedly the Earl of Clanricarde, and Lord Mountgarret was probably another of the prisoners.

<sup>1</sup> *Taylor MS.* Other songs and lamentations, sung on this occasion, have been handed down to posterity by some Salopian who, perhaps, found them less tedious than the chronicler. They are to be found in PHILLIPS'S *History of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Henry wrote from Chester on September 18th to the Queen and Cecil to say he was detained there by illness, and had Lord Clanricarde with him. He had long been anxious that the Earl should be put upon his trial, and had frequently applied for instructions as to the manner, order, and process to be observed in trying him, but had failed to get any answer. The special charge against him was that of fomenting the Rebellion of June, 1576. Mountgarret was also alleged to have been an "aider, succourer, and reliever of the said detected and proclaimed rebellion." (See Letters from Sidney and the Irish Council in the *Irish State Papers* and *Sidney Papers*.) The account of Sir Henry Sidney's reception is, of course, from the *Taylor MS.*

The Lord President had been detained nearly a fortnight in Chester by illness. He arrived in Shrewsbury on September 30th. On the following day he was entertained by the Bailiffs at a banquet in "the newe repayryd hall," to which he gave the name of "The Chamber of Concord"; and, on October 2nd, he went off towards London. Sometimes the chronicler gives the names of the boys who made the orations on these occasions. On February 12th, 1580, when Sir Henry arrived in Shrewsbury in order to hold a Session of the Council of the Marches of Wales, the two scholars who spoke were Robert Nedeham<sup>1</sup> and Edward Bromley.<sup>2</sup> The former was the eldest son of Robert Nedeham, Esq., of Shavington, Shropshire, and succeeded to the family estates. He was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1607, and Knight of the Shire in the Parliaments of 1592 and 1601, and in 1625 he was created Viscount Kilmorey in the Peerage of Ireland, in which country, Blakeaway says, he had considerable commands during the reign of Elizabeth.

Edward Bromley was the second son of Sir George Bromley. He went to the Bar and became Recorder of Shrewsbury, and ultimately a Baron of the Exchequer. He was knighted at Whitehall in 1609.

Two years later, towards the close of March, 1583, Sir Henry Sidney, driving in his wagon from Ludlow to Shrewsbury, stopped by the conduit in the "Wyld Coppe to listen to two excellent oracons" made by two scholars

<sup>1</sup> Robert Nedeham entered school in 1577, and was admitted Student of the Inner Temple in 1581. He was knighted in September, 1594, by Sir William Russell, Lord Deputy of Ireland. General Lord Norreys, writing to Lord Burghley on May 17th, 1596, calls him "a very young soldier." (*Cal. State Papers, Irish.*) But this can hardly be correct, as the Lord Deputy would not have knighted him in 1594 unless he had then seen some service. Lodge, in his *Irish Peerage*, confuses Sir Robert Nedeham with his father, and the same confusion is noticeable in BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shropshire*.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Bromley was baptised at Worfield, Salop, October 15th, 1563. He entered school in 1577, was admitted Student of the Inner Temple in 1580, and was called to the Bar in 1590; Reader of the Inner Temple 1606; Recorder of Much Wenlock 1607; Baron of the Exchequer 1610; died 1620. He was M.P. for Bridgnorth in the Parliaments of 1586, 1588, 1592, 1597, 1601, and 1603. (*Foss's Lives of the Judges*; *Taylor MS.*; OWEN and BLAKEWAY, etc.)



of the Free School "whose names were Jerram Wryght and thomas crewe,"<sup>1</sup> . . . "the w<sup>ch</sup> in the ende he praysyd verey well."<sup>2</sup> Both these boys came from Cheshire.

Jerome Wright entered school in 1580, matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1583 as pleb. fil. of Cheshire, and graduated B.A. in 1588, M.A. in 1591, and B.D. in 1600. He was admitted to the church of North Fambridge, Essex, on June 18th, 1599, on the presentation of the Crown.<sup>3</sup>

Thomas Crewe had a much more distinguished career as a lawyer. He became a serjeant-at-law in 1623, and King's serjeant in 1629, and in 1623 he was knighted. He also sat in several Parliaments, and was Speaker of the House of Commons in those of 1623 and 1625. A contemporary epigram, testifying to his abilities as a counsel, has been preserved.

"Would you have your cause go true,  
Take Senior Crooke and Junior Crewe."

His son, John Crewe, Esq., was created Baron Crewe of Stene in 1611. His elder brother, Sir Randolph Crewe, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, was entered at Shrewsbury School in 1570-71 as Rondell Crewe. In the school list of January 11th, 157½, he is called Randulph Crewe. As he was baptised on January 10th, 1558, he must have been about twelve years old when he went to Shrewsbury. He was admitted Student of Lincoln's Inn in 1577, and was called to the Bar in 1584. In 1614 he was made a serjeant-at-law and knighted, and in 1624 he was promoted to be King's serjeant. On January 26th, 1624, he was appointed Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, but he was displaced on November 10th, 1626, by writ, on account of his opposition to the project of a forced

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Crewe* was third son of Mr. John Crewe of Nantwich. He entered Shrewsbury in 1581. Student of Gray's Inn 1585; Reader 1612; M.P. for Lichfield 1604, for Northamptonshire 1614 and 1620, for Aylesbury 1623, and for Gattton 1625. Sir Thomas died February 1st, 1628. There is a monument to his memory in Stene Church with recumbent effigies of himself and his wife. (See WOOLRYCH'S *Eminent Serjeants* and RUSHWORTH'S *Historical Collections*.)

<sup>2</sup> See *Taylor MS.*

<sup>3</sup> See *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic.*

loan. The Duke of Buckingham showed some disposition to use his influence to get Sir Randolph restored to his position, but any intentions of this kind which he may have had were frustrated by the Duke's assassination in August, 1628. Sir Randolph sat in the Parliaments of 1597 and 1614, and was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons in the latter. Though he had acquired the estate of Crewe Hall, which is said to have been originally in the possession of his family, he seems to have resided chiefly at his house in Westminster, and, according to Fuller, was "much praised for his hospitality." Sir Randolph is described as "a deep black-letter lawyer and well versed in heraldry and genealogy."<sup>1</sup>

Several Shropshire boys, who were educated under Lawrence, attained some distinction in after life.

Sir Francis Newport of High Ercall<sup>2</sup> represented Shropshire in the Parliament of 1592, and was Sheriff of the county in 1586 and 1601. His son was created Viscount Newport.

Sir William Leighton of Plash,<sup>3</sup> one of the King's Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, is said to have been "an excellent musician," and published various poems, the most noticeable of which were "Feares or Lamentations of a Sorrowful Soule," and "Virtue Triumphant."

Sir Thomas Harries, or Harris, Bart., of Boreatton Park,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Sir Randolph Crewe*, second son of Mr. John Crewe, was M.P. for Brackley 1597, and for Cheshire 1614; twice married; died at Westminster January 13th, 1648, and buried in Bartholmew Church, Cheshire. (FOSS's *Lives of the Judges*; FULLER's *Worthies*; CAMPBELL's *Lives of the Lord Chief Justices*.) Wolrych says that the two brothers were at the same school, the same college, and the same inn. He was certainly right as regards the school, and wrong as regards the inn.

<sup>2</sup> *Francis Newport* was son of Sir Richard Newport, of High Ercall. He entered school in 1569, and was still there in 1571. He matriculated at Magd. College, Oxford, in 1575 at the age of nineteen, and was admitted Student of the Inner Temple in 1576. Knighted at Worsopp 1603.

<sup>3</sup> *William Leighton*, son of William Leighton, Esq., of Plash, Chief Justice of North Wales, entered school in 1578, and was admitted of the Inner Temple in 1580. (WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.*; BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs*.)

<sup>4</sup> *Thomas Harris* entered school in 1571. His elder brother, Dr. Richard Harris, has been noticed in Chapter I. Thomas Harris lived for many years in the parish of St. Julian, and most of his children were baptised in the Parish Church. He died at Boreatton in 1629, and was buried at Baschurch. (See BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs*; FOSS's *Judges*; *State Papers, Domestic*; and *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society* for 1898.)

son of Mr. Roger Harries, draper, of Shrewsbury, who was Bailiff in 1578-79, was a lawyer of some eminence, who was made a master in chancery in 1583, and a serjeant-at-law in 1604. He represented Shrewsbury in the Parliament of 1586, and was made a baronet in 1622. In 1617 he acquired the estates of Onslow and Boreatton by purchase from Edward Onslow, Esq., and in 1619 was Sheriff of Shropshire. Some of his neighbours, Sir Francis Kinaston apparently taking the lead, formally protested against Sir Thomas's elevation to the baronetcy as a disgrace to them, and prevailed on Captain Simon Leake, who had been employed by the Harris family to prepare the necessary certificates of descent, and had been treated by them with great liberality, to allege in a petition to the King that the certificates had been unduly obtained. After much delay the Earl Marshal's "Court of Chivalry" was revived to try the case, but ultimately the matter came before the Court of Chancery, where it was decided in favour of Sir Thomas.

Nathaniel Tarporley,<sup>1</sup> a mathematician and astronomer of some note, was a native of Shrewsbury, and entered school in 1571. After graduating at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1583, he went abroad and acted for two or three years as amanuensis to Francis Vieta of Fontenay, the celebrated mathematician. Tarporley took his M.A. degree in 1591, and went into Holy Orders. In 1607 he was appointed Rector of Salwarp, Shropshire, but he seems to have resided almost entirely at Sion College, London, for the sake of his mathematical studies. On November 27th, 1605, Tarporley was examined before the council on a charge of casting the King's Nativity for a Mrs. Heriot. Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, gave him a pension "in consideration of his singular knowledge." Tarporley died at Sion College in 1632, and was buried in St. Alphege's Church. He left his books and instruments to Sion College.

Another Shropshire boy, who was at Shrewsbury in

<sup>1</sup> *Nathaniel Tarporley* matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, November 17th, 1581, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged 17. He was of Brasenose College when he graduated M.A. in 1591. (Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*; *State Papers, Domestic.*)



Lawrence's time, was Sir Clement Edmonds,<sup>1</sup> Clerk of her Majesty's Privy Council. He was employed on several occasions in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. in the Diplomatic Service, and for a few months before his death in 1622 he filled the office of Secretary of State. He was a graduate of Oxford and fellow of All Souls', and is described by Fuller as "skilled in all arts and sciences." Sir Clement wrote treatises on Cæsar's *Commentaries* and *Military Tactics*, and, in allusion to these works, Fuller speaks of him as "an eminent instance to what perfection of theory they may attain in matters of war who are not acquainted with the practical part thereof." His marriage with Mary Clerk, daughter of Robert Clerk, of Grafton, Northamptonshire, who was an attendant on Lady Stafford, may have contributed, it has been suggested, to his political advancement. After his appointment to the clerkship of the Council in 1609 he seems to have benefited largely by the forfeiture of recusants' estates, and bought an estate at Preston, Northamptonshire, holding also the manor of Preston under the Crown. On October 4th, 1613, Edmunds received the appointment of Muster Master General for life, and on September 29th, 1617, he was knighted at Hampton Court. In the latter year, as also in 1618, he was a benefactor to Shrewsbury School library. Sir Clement died on October 13th, 1622, at his house in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and was buried at Preston, where there is a monument to his memory.

<sup>1</sup> *Clement Edmonds* was a native of Shrawardine in Shropshire, and was entered at Shrewsbury School 1572-74, together with his brother Ralph, who afterwards became a draper in London, living in the parish of St. Mary, Vintry, and was a witness to Clement's marriage at the church of St. Alphege. The brothers' names are written in the school register *Raffe Yeamans* and *Clemat Yemans*. An elder brother, Thomas, was first entered in 1571. His name is written in the register for that year, either *Ydmonds* or *Yemonds*, it is doubtful which. When the school reassembled in June, 1577, after the plague, the three brothers were readmitted together as Thomas, Clement, and Rafe Yemans, fratres. Clement Edmonds matriculated at All Souls', Oxford, in 1586, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged 19. He graduated B.A. in 1590 and M.A. in 1593; elected Fellow in 1590; represented the University in the Parliament of 1620-21; said to have been M.P. for Carnarvon in 1609, but the name is Edwards in the Parliamentary lists. (See FULLER'S *Worthies*; WOOD'S *Athen. Oxon.*; and *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



Sir Robert Banister, who filled the office of Clerk Comptroller of the Household for many years during the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., was a son of Lawrence Banister, Esq., of Wem, steward of the Duke of Norfolk's estates, and J.P. for Shropshire. He was born in 1569, and was entered at Shrewsbury School, together with his elder brother Richard, in 1577. The brothers remained at school for six years, and then proceeded to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where they were admitted pensioners on November 22nd, 1583. Neither brother seems to have taken a degree, and probably Robert went into the Queen's household at an early age. In his epitaph he is said to have been "bred at Court." It is notorious that Mary Queen of Scots had many friends in the household of Elizabeth, and through some of these, it is not unreasonable to suppose, Robert Banister was provided for at Court. Though personally innocent of treason, Lawrence Banister, his father, had suffered severely through his connection with the Duke of Norfolk, and he had also earned Mary's gratitude by some acts of personal kindness or courtesy.<sup>1</sup> It does not appear at what date Robert Banister was appointed "Clerk Comptroller of the Royal Household," but he must have been in office some length of time on March 8th, 160 $\frac{3}{4}$ , when Lord Treasurer Buckhurst spoke of him in a letter to Sir Thomas Lake as "an honest and skilful servant of his Majesty." In 1605 he was knighted by the King at Greenwich. By royal grants and leases Sir Robert seems to have acquired considerable property in Northamptonshire. He was still in office at Court in January, 162 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and lived to the age of eighty, dying on December 15th, 1649. He was buried in the chancel of Passenham Church. The epitaph on his tomb describes him as "prudent, charitable, and very industrious."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See *Burghley State Papers*.

<sup>2</sup> *Sir Robert Banister* was married three times and had several children; but only one daughter, Dorothy, who married Lord Maynard, seems to have survived him. The manor of Passenham, which had apparently been granted to

Richard Banister, who is called "Sir Richard" in the *Herald's Visitation*, was admitted Student of Gray's Inn in 1586, and succeeded to his father's property at Wem in 1588. He married Winifred, daughter of Edward Norris, Esq., of Speake, in Lancashire. On May 7th, 1611, a licence was granted to Richard and Winifred Banister to travel into Spain. Richard Banister seems to have practised as a lawyer, for his name appears in April, 1616, as a sworn commissioner to take and engross depositions in the County Palatine, and also to have engaged in commerce, as he received a licence on March 24th, 1617, to make cloths and beaver for twenty-one years.

Rowland Heylyn, Alderman of Cripplegate Ward in 1624, and Sheriff of London in 1625, who published a Welsh translation of the Bible at his own expense, and whose portrait by Henry Cocke still hangs in Ironmongers' Hall, was a native of Shrewsbury, although of Welsh extraction, his family having long been settled at Pentreheylin, in Montgomeryshire. His London house was in the parish of St. Alban, Wood Street. He died in 1631, leaving £300 to the Corporation of Shrewsbury for the benefit of the poor. Alderman Heylyn and his wife were both benefactors to the school library, giving between them no less than eighty-three books.<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Thomas Higgons,<sup>2</sup> a nephew of Mr. George Higgons, who was on so many occasions elected Bailiff of Shrewsbury, after graduating at Balliol, Oxford, was bred as a physician,

her father by the Crown, passed through her to the Maynard family. In 1626 Sir Robert restored the chancel of Passenham Church, and erected a screen between the nave and chancel. His mansion at Passenham became in after years the parsonage house. (See *Calendar State Papers, Domestic*; WHALLEY'S *Northamptonshire*; and GARBETT'S *History of Wem*.)

<sup>1</sup> Rowland Heylyn was born in 1562, and entered school in 1570; apprenticed to Thomas Wade, of London, in 1576; admitted to Freedom of Ironmongers' Company in 1584; assistant, 1612; master, 1614 and 1625. (See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*; *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic*; and OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Higgons matriculated at Bras. Coll., Oxford, in 1582, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged 18. B.A. (Balliol), 1568; M.A., 1588; D.D., 1608; Rector of Westbury, 1608. Buried at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, March 24th, 1635. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

but ultimately took holy orders, and became Rector of Westbury (*in sinistra parte*). He was also appointed Chaplain to James I.

In the year 1579 a Shropshire boy named Humphrey Leach or Leake was admitted at Shrewsbury School, who subsequently, after graduating at Cambridge, and being ordained, became Vicar of St. Alkmund's in Shrewsbury, and Chaplain of Christ Church, Oxford. In 1608 he was suspended, Wood tells us, "by the puritanical doctors of the university" for what they considered to be popish preaching. After a fruitless appeal to Archbishop Bancroft Leach left England, and in a few months joined the Church of Rome. Thomas Lawrence lived long enough to sorrow over his old pupil's perversion, as well as the long-continued school troubles, of which the affection borne by Ralph Gittins, one of the under masters, for his old friend and school-fellow Humphrey Leach, the puritan intolerance which was dominant in the town, and the loyalty to his colleagues shown by John Meighen, Lawrence's successor in the head-mastership, were all, in part, the cause.<sup>1</sup>

Another Shropshire boy who was at Shrewsbury School in these days, Osmar Hils, must be mentioned, more on account of the picture of social life which his story discloses than of any special distinction which he attained. After being "bred as a scholar" Osmar Hils took a lease of Bilmarsh Common in the parish of Middle, Shropshire, where "he built a fair house and taught scholars there, many of them being sons of gentlemen of good quality." Mr. Gough, the quaint historian of Middle, tells us that several of Osmar Hils's daughters were in service with some of the gentlemen who had sent their sons to his school, and that one of them, whose employer lived near Wellington, was killed with a cleaver by her mistress, who was enraged on seeing what she considered an act of undue familiarity towards the poor girl on the part of her husband.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Further particulars about Humphrey Leach, and a full account of the school troubles, of which he was indirectly the cause, will be given in a subsequent chapter.

<sup>2</sup> Osmar Hils was buried at Middle, July 23rd, 1635.



Sir Thomas Sidney, who entered Shrewsbury School in 1582-83 while Lawrence was still Head Master, though but a short time before his resignation, was the third son of Sir Henry. He was born in Ireland on March 25th, 1569, and Cecil was his godfather. The Lord Deputy, writing to Cecil on June 30th, 1569, thanks him for "helping to make a Christian" of his son. Little is known of Thomas Sidney in after life beyond the facts that he accompanied Leicester to Flushing in December, 1585, took part in the fatal affray at Zutphen, and was present at his brother Philip's death, as well as at his state funeral in London. One incident is recorded of his Shrewsbury life. On May 25th, 1584, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, accompanied by his stepson Robert, Earl of Essex, and Lord North, visited Shrewsbury and received something like a state reception. Thomas Sidney was one of the schoolboy orators on this occasion, and seems to have discharged his duty gracefully and modestly.<sup>1</sup>

On the whole Shrewsbury School does not show so distinctly an aristocratic character under Lawrence as in Ashton's time, and his scholars, as a rule, seem to have come mainly from Shropshire and North Wales.<sup>2</sup> But Lawrence was well entitled to feel proud, at the close of his career, that in the course of twelve years, through "their diligence in learning," and his "toil in teaching," he had been able to send over one hundred scholars to Oxford and Cambridge. And "a greate number" of these, he confidently asserted in his farewell letter to the Bailiffs, were "as likelye men to prove good members in the church of God, and worthy instruments in a Christian commonwealthe as any whosoever or whatsoever." Many of these students can be traced, and not a few of them fulfilled Lawrence's anticipations.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Sidney's name was entered at school some time between November 17th, 1582, and July 19th, 1583. The account of Lord Leicester's visit is given in the *Taylor MS.* (See also BOURNE'S *Life of Sir Philip Sidney*, and the *Sidney State Papers.*)

<sup>2</sup> Sir Richard Chitwood, of Chitwood, Bucks, and Sir Edward Francis, who came from Derbyshire, were at Shrewsbury under Lawrence, but they are rather exceptional cases.



Abraham Fraunce,<sup>1</sup> who was a fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and practised as a barrister in the Court of the Marches of Wales, had some little repute as a poet.

Shortly before Fraunce took his degree at Cambridge Richard Webster, who, like Fraunce, was a native of Shrewsbury and educated at the school, was elected fellow of St. John's College. He held the vicarage of Madingley while in residence at Cambridge, and filled many college offices between 1577 and 1582. In 1586 he was made a Canon of Westminster, and in 1588 a Prebendary of Hereford. In spite of these preferments Webster seems to have been greedy for more. On May 9th, 1594, he wrote to Sir Robert Cecil asking for a Prebendal Stall at Windsor. On July 13th of the same year he begged for the Archdeaconry of Middlesex. And on September 13th he again urged his claims for preferment. It is said that he ultimately received a grant of the Archdeaconry of Middlesex in September, 1595. On the death of Dr. Whitaker, master of St. John's in 1595, the name of Richard Webster was sent to the Queen as of one "not misliked by the different factions of the college"; but he was not made master.<sup>2</sup> There are several illustrations to be seen among the *Lansdowne MSS.* of the persistency with which Webster sought for preferment.

Richard Horde, a Bridgnorth boy, who entered Shrewsbury School in 1577, also became a fellow of St. John's, and was subsequently beneficed in Essex.

Richard Bruer, who afterwards went to Cambridge, and was elected a fellow of Trinity College, entered Shrewsbury

<sup>1</sup> *Abraham Fraunce* was a native of Shrewsbury, and entered school in 1571. He was sent to Cambridge by Philip Sidney, matriculating at St. John's College May 20th, 1575; Scholar in 1578; B.A. and Fellow, 1580; M.A., 1583; Student of Gray's Inn, 1583. His poems were chiefly written in English Hexameters. In his *Arcadian Rhetorike* (1588) he quotes SPENSER'S *Faerie Queene*, then in MS. Other writings of his were *The Lawyer's Logike*, and *The Countess of Pembroke's Iuy Church and Emmanuel* (Lond., 1591). (See *Hist. of St. John's College* and COOPER'S *Athen. Cant.*, and a long notice in the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Webster* was admitted Pensioner of St. John's College, Camb., in June, 1572; B.A., 1576; M.A., 1579; B.D., 1586; Prælector of College, 1579; Sublector, 1581; Hebrew Examiner, 1582. (See *Calendar of Hatfield Papers*, vol. iv.; COOPER'S *Athen. Cantab.*; *Hist. of St. John's College.*)

School in 1578. The Cambridge Collection contains Greek verses of his on the death of Sir Philip Sidney.<sup>1</sup>

Benjamin Bentham, eldest son of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, who entered Shrewsbury in 1579, became a fellow of Merton College, Oxford.<sup>2</sup>

Sir Roger Wilbraham and his two brothers, Thomas and Ralph, were entered at Shrewsbury not long before Ashton's resignation.<sup>3</sup>

But enough has been said of Lawrence's pupils. Great regrets were expressed when he first signified his intention of resigning in 1583. The town Bailiffs earnestly entreated him to retain his post, proposing that he should himself select an assistant for the highest school, and his friends urged him to accept this proposal. But Lawrence would not consent. He was justly proud of the existing condition of the school, the amount and distribution of its revenue, the excellence of its ordinances, the satisfactory state of the buildings, the large number of scholars, the notable resort of strangers to Shrewsbury for education, and the good progress its scholars made in learning, and hesitated to adopt a course which might diminish its prosperity. At

<sup>1</sup> *Richard Bruer* was the son of a burgess of Shrewsbury. He graduated B.A. in January, 158 $\frac{5}{8}$ , and M.A. in 1590.

<sup>2</sup> *Benjamin Bentham* matriculated at Merton in February, 158 $\frac{1}{2}$ , as episc. fil., aged sixteen; B.A., 1586; M.A., 1589; Fellow, 1586; suspended from fellowship October 31st, 1598, by the Visitor, for insubordination.

<sup>3</sup> The names of these three boys were spelt Wilbrom when first entered in the school register. They were sons of Richard Wilbraham, Esq., of Towns End, Nantwich. Roger was born November 4th, 1553, entered Shrewsbury School in 1571, and was admitted Student of Gray's Inn June 27th, 1576; Solicitor-General of Ireland February 8th, 158 $\frac{4}{8}$ ; Reader of Gray's Inn 1597-98; Surveyor of the Court of Wards and Liveries, and Master of the Court of Requests, May 1st, 1600; knighted at Greenwich May 20th, 1603; M.P. for Callington, Cornwall, 1604. Sir Roger bought Dorfield Hall and Manor from Mr. William Bromley; but in 1602 he made over Dorfield Manor, together with the manors of Acton and Hurleston, to his brother Ralph. He died July 31st, 1616. His eldest brother Richard, who was not at Shrewsbury, became Common Serjeant of London. Thomas Wilbraham, the third son, was born September 20th, 1555. He is described in the *Genealogies* as "of London." Ralph Wilbraham was born March 20th, 155 $\frac{5}{8}$ , and was admitted Student of Gray's Inn March 21st, 159 $\frac{7}{8}$ . He held the office of Feodary of Cheshire and Flintshire. (See ORMEROD'S *Cheshire*.)

the same time he felt himself "so wearied with the work, so tired with the toil, and overwhelmed with the care of the school," that he could not and would not continue to discharge the duties of Head Master. He expressed, however, his willingness to accept from his successor, whoever that might be, one year's stipend, if he, "of his own good nature," or at the Bailiffs' persuasion, should be willing to give it to him. Lawrence's farewell letter is dated July 19th.<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the ordinances the Bailiffs proposed to promote the second master, Mr. John Baker, of whose wisdom, learning, honesty, and experience Lawrence had spoken in high terms. But John Baker was too modest to accept the post of Head Master, and urged that the college should be asked to elect "a more sufficient person" than he held himself to be. Accordingly, on August 1st, the Bailiffs wrote to the master and seniors of St. John's College to signify the vacancy.<sup>2</sup> There can be no doubt that the school enjoyed a very high reputation at the time of Lawrence's resignation. Lawrence himself describes it as "a nursery of learning, an ornament to the town, and a singular benefit to the whole commonwealth"; the Bailiffs call it "the special ornament of the town and treasure of the country adjoining," and tell the authorities of St. John's College that "all gentlemen in these parts are very desirous to have their children here trained up in learning." And the college joins in the chorus of praise.<sup>3</sup>

But Camden's testimony and that of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, to which reference has already been made, are of greater weight, as coming from persons unconnected with Shrewsbury or its school. Lawrence was comparatively a young man when he resigned, and he lived for many years afterwards in retirement at Wem. It is to be feared that in his old age he fell into poverty. An order appears in the Corporation Accounts for 1602, that "Master Thomas Lawrence, sometime Head Schoolmaster, being grown poor,

<sup>1</sup> The letter is given both by Hotchkis and Blakeway.

<sup>2</sup> See *History of St. John's College*.

<sup>3</sup> The college answer is dated September 20th, 1583.



shall be allowed £5 and 50s. in hand out of the Corporation estate for his great and painful diligence in procuring good order in the Free Grammar School.”<sup>1</sup> Although the school revenues at the time of Lawrence’s resignation were considerable, he had received but a small stipend until the expiration of the lease of the Chirbury tithes in 1578. For six years, as he reminded the Bailiffs in his farewell letter, he was only paid 20 marks per annum, and then, for the next four years, only £20. So it was only for five years out of his twelve years’ head-mastership that he received the full stipend of £40 appointed by the ordinances. Under such circumstances he could not well make any provision for his future support while he was at Shrewsbury. This he points out to the Bailiffs in his letter. “Post tot tantosque exantlatos labores,” he writes,

“Quid pretii sperare licet? quae dona reporto?  
 Nil: nil: nec superest quicquam, quo vivere possum,  
 Quod superest aevi, si quid superesse volunt di.”

On such grounds Lawrence considered he might reasonably and conscientiously ask for “one yeare’s wages at least” on his resignation.<sup>2</sup> But no compulsion was to be applied to his successor beyond their “worships’ persuasions.” Lawrence, however, although his suggestion is modestly made, adds with some shrewdness that the Bailiffs’ “careful or unkind dealing” with him would very shortly be reported by him to certain persons “of honour” and “others of great worship.” Lawrence lived to enjoy his annuity of £5 for eighteen years.<sup>3</sup> He was buried at Wem, January 23rd, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>80</sup>.

Mr. Leonard Hotchkis, the antiquarian Head Master of Shrewsbury in the eighteenth century, has preserved for us

<sup>1</sup> See OWEN’S *History of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>2</sup> Meighen, Gittins, and other masters were in later days pensioned out of school funds on their retirement. But it does not seem to have occurred, either to the Bailiffs or Lawrence, that, under Ordinance XVI., anything could be done for him except to provide a substitute who would teach in one of the lower schools, and receive half Lawrence’s stipend. Counsel subsequently took a different view of this ordinance.

<sup>3</sup> See *Blakeway MS.*



interesting forms of Morning and Evening Prayer, which he says were in use at Shrewsbury School before the office of catechist was founded. He copied them, he tells us, from an old book of Admittances or of Memoranda which was formerly in Chaloner's possession. As early as 1603 it was directed by a Corporation Order that £6 13s. 4d. should be paid out of the school funds to a minister, who should read prayers and catechise the scholars in the "Scholars' Chapel" in St. Mary's Church. Up to the time of the consecration of the school chapel in 1617 the curate of St. Mary seems generally to have acted as catechist. But in that year the Rev. John Foorde was appointed to the office at a stipend of £20 per annum; and from that time the catechist was a recognized school official, the duties and stipend being, as a rule, assigned to the Head Master. If, therefore, Hotchkis's account of these prayers be correct, they were, at any rate, in use early in the seventeenth century, and may possibly have been drawn up by Lawrence for daily use in school after the framing of the ordinances in 1577.

"MORNING PRAYER.

"To thank the Lord our God it is  
*A good and comely thing,*  
 And to Thy Name, O Thou most high,  
 Due praise aloud to sing,

Thy loving kindness forth to show  
 When first appears the light,  
 And to declare Thy faithfulness  
 With pleasure every night.

For through Thy works, Lord, Thou hast made  
 Our souls right glad to be,  
 And in Thy works we will triumph,  
 Which have been wrought by Thee ;

Lord, let Thy Grace and Glory stand  
 On us Thy servants thus,  
 Confirm the works we take in hand,  
 Lord, prosper them and us.

"I believe in God, &c.

"O blessed Father, we give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for Thy manifold blessings both spiritual and temporal which Thou hast plentifully bestowed upon us from the beginning of our lives to this present day: But namely that Thou hast vouchsafed mercifully to preserve us this night last past from all the maliciousness of our ghostly enemy the devil. And now, blessed Father, as the night with its darkness is past, and the day with its light is come, and goeth on to the joy of all living creatures: so likewise now cause the spiritual light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, which is the lively image of Thee our God, to shine in our hearts, that we may behold Thee, our Heavenly Father, in Him, and that we Thy children, through this blessed light, being delivered from all dark ignorance and heavy sluggishness, may be made apt vessels for Thy Holy Spirit to dwell in. So plant in us, good Father, the fear of Thy Name and knowledge of Thy Will, that we, Thy poor children, acknowledging ourselves to be miserable sinners, may nevertheless be made pure and holy by the righteousness and death of Thy only and natural Son Jesus Christ our eldest brother. And grant that we so proceed in good learning and manners, that, as we daily grow through Thy goodness in years and stature of body, so we may daily increase both in wisdom and favour before Thee our heavenly Father and before men, through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory both now and for ever. Amen.

"Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

"The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, &c.

#### "EVENING PRAYER.

"I believe in God the Father, &c.

"O most merciful Father and gracious God, without whose help all those studies, and all those things which we have learned this day, are but vain; bless, we beseech Thee, the labours of our Teachers, and the endeavours of us Thy tender children, and so plentifully water the same with the dew of Thy heavenly Grace, that, as we daily grow through Thy goodness in godliness, knowledge and understanding, at the last we may become fit instruments for Thy Church and Commonwealth. Give us Grace, O Heavenly Father, to use all those studies and all those things which we have learned this day in Thy fear, to Thy honour and glory, the comfort of our Parents and the edifying of our Brethren. Forgive us, O Lord, all the faults which we have this day committed either by negligence, slothfulness, or any other way. And endue us daily more and more with godliness, knowledge and understanding, and inflame our minds with earnestness and cheerfulness

to obtain the same. Teach us true obedience to Thee in all powers and ordinances appointed under Thee, and finally as Thou hast made this day prosperous unto us, so by Thy mighty protection save us this night from all perils and dangers, and especially from our ghostly enemy the devil, who, like a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, which of ourselves we cannot resist, but being made strong by faith in Thee, to Whom, both sleeping and waking, we commend ourselves this night and evermore. Amen.

“God save the Church Universal, and bring us all to the unity of Christ in truth. God save the King, Queen and Realm, and send us peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”







SCREEN FROM THE OLD CHAPEL, CIRCA 1617

## CHAPTER IV.

John Meighen, M.A., Head Master, 1583-1635.

WHEN Lawrence resigned his post in July, 1583, the Bailiffs were willing that Mr. John Baker, the second master, should succeed him, being of opinion that he was possessed of all the qualifications required by the ordinances for such promotion; but, as Baker "utterly refused" to accept their proposal, "requesting that a more sufficient person" should be obtained by the recommendation of the master and fellows of St. John's College, the Bailiffs wrote to them on August 1st, announcing the vacancy, and begging the college "to elect and send" a new master in Lawrence's place, signifying at the same time that they would disallow the college choice, which, under the ordinances, they had the right to do, if "a younger or more insufficient man than Mr. Baker" were sent.<sup>1</sup> After some deliberation the master and fellows selected Mr. John Mehen,<sup>2</sup> M.A., a graduate of their own college, who was duly qualified, as a scholar of Shrewsbury School, the son of a burgess, and a Master of Arts of more than two years' standing, to be Head Master. In their letter of commendation, dated September 20th, they tell the Bailiffs that they have "no fear" that Meighen "could be disallowed." They regarded him, with the exception of one man<sup>3</sup> "who refused to deal therein," as the best man

<sup>1</sup> See BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 419.

<sup>2</sup> The name seems to have been spelt indifferently Meghyn, Mehen, Meyghen, and Meighen. The Head Master signed his name John Meyghen for a year or two, but subsequently changed the *y* into an *i*.

<sup>3</sup> This was probably either Richard Webster or Richard Harries. Both of them were natives of Shrewsbury, educated at the school, and fellows of St. John's College.

available for the post, and described him as industrious "in the study of good learning," "well affected" in religion, of "honest conversation" and "discreet behaviour" during his whole time at college, and "well approved . . . in the good government of youth and their due order of teaching." With more years they doubted not that he would be as successful as his predecessors.<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs were sensible enough not to insist on their condition that the new master should be an older man than John Baker, and formally admitted Meighen to the head-mastership on October 1st, 1583.

According to Blakeway, the new Head Master was the son of Richard Meighen, a tanner of Shrewsbury. Two boys of his name were at Shrewsbury School in Ashton's time, both of whom were oppidans. The first, John Meyghyn, was entered in 1563, and placed in the 8th class. The second, whose name is written John Mehen, was entered in 1566, and placed in the same class. It is quite certain, therefore, that these entries must refer to different boys. Which of the two is to be identified with the future Head Master must remain doubtful. We know that he graduated B.A. at St. John's College, Cambridge, in January, 157 $\frac{7}{8}$ , and M.A. in 1581, and must therefore have been eleven years at school if he entered in 1563. This is unlikely, and the balance of probability seems in favour of the later entry, especially as the spelling of the name agrees with that adopted by the college in the letter of nomination. Probably Meighen was about twenty-six years old when he began work in 1583. Like his predecessor, Thomas Lawrence, he was not in Holy Orders. He filled, indeed, the office of churchwarden of St. Mary's in 1599.<sup>2</sup> The new Head Master found the school well filled with boys, the numbers at the time of his admission, excluding those in the Accidence School, being 271. Lawrence's tone in his farewell letter to the Bailiffs is that of a thoroughly wearied man, and it is probable that the reins of discipline were somewhat relaxed in the latter part of his time; for, on October 4th, the day of the

<sup>1</sup> See BAKER's *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 419.

<sup>2</sup> *Hotchkiss MSS.*

municipal elections, the outgoing Bailiffs thought it necessary to issue a proclamation that "no scholars, boys, nor prentices, should that night go abroad to disquiet the town with unreasonable noises, fightings, and disorders." The notice had the desired effect, and "all things proceeded quietly, and ended in good time and in good order."<sup>1</sup> About this time it was arranged, mainly for the advantage of Shrewsbury schoolboys, that St. Mary's bell should toll every day, at 11 o'clock in the morning and 5 o'clock in the afternoon.<sup>2</sup>

The first year of Meighen's head-mastership was noticeable for the visit of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, accompanied by Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, his stepson, and Lord North, to Shrewsbury. The reception given them had almost a state character.<sup>3</sup> The "Worshipful of the shire," the Bailiffs, and Aldermen in their scarlet gowns, "the companies of the occupations of the town," and the scholars of the Free School, "in comely and seemly order," awaited the arrival of the honoured visitors at the upper end of the Wyle Cop. Here, in accordance with the Shrewsbury custom, orations were addressed to Lord Leicester by certain selected boys, partly in prose and partly in verse. Thomas Sidney,<sup>4</sup> Lord Leicester's nephew, was naturally one of the orators. Edward Higgons,<sup>5</sup> a nephew of Mr. George Higgons, one of the Bailiffs for the year, and Richard Horde,<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Taylor MS.*

<sup>2</sup> *PHILLIPS'S History of Shrewsbury.*

<sup>3</sup> *Taylor MS.* The date of the visit was May 25th, 1584.

<sup>4</sup> For what little is known of Thomas Sidney see Chapter III.

<sup>5</sup> *Edward Higgons* was probably a son of Mr. Ralph Higgons, younger brother of the Bailiff. Owen and Blakeway fall into the curious error of calling him the second son of Mr. George Higgons, two of whose sons—Richard and George—were at school in 1562. If his second son was named Edward he must have died before 1562, for in that year Edward, son of Mr. George Higgons, was baptised at St. Julian's on October 26th. This latter Edward can hardly have been at school in 1584 at the mature age of 22. So, unless Mr. George Higgons had a third son named Edward, both elder ones having died, he cannot have been father of the schoolboy of 1584.

<sup>6</sup> *Richard Horde* was fifth son of John Horde, Esq., of Horde's Park, Bridgnorth. He entered Shrewsbury School in 1577. In 1593 he was elected fellow of St. John's College. Subsequently he took holy orders, and had a living in Essex.



a Bridgnorth boy, who became afterwards a fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, were the others.

Thomas Sidney's speech consisted chiefly of a graceful acknowledgment of the "loving entertainment" he had received from all classes in Shrewsbury, and a humble entreaty to his uncle "to give the Bailiffs and all the rest thanks in his behalf."

The other orations were couched in very flowery language, and were elaborate panegyrics of Leicester. They spoke of "the noble stock" from which he sprang, and of which he was "the chiefest flower in flourishing"; of the valour of his "arts and attempts," and the "triumphant end" to which he brought them; of the high esteem in which he was held by "*the prince*" for his "wisdom and politic counsel" in preventing foreign princes, and revealing both "domestical and foreign traitors," and wound up with a prayer that the Almighty would give "Nestor's years" to "his honour."

At the close of the speeches the whole party proceeded to "Master Onslow's Place,"<sup>1</sup> which had been furnished for the occasion by Mr. Leighton,<sup>2</sup> of Watelsborough, and there the Bailiffs presented to Lord Leicester a standing cup of silver gilt containing £20 in angels, a hogshead of wine, and banqueting dishes to the value of £10. All these gifts "his honour . . . thankfully received."

The next morning Leicester visited the school,<sup>3</sup> and had once more to listen to "sundry orations." The chronicler adds that before leaving he gratified the masters with "sundry rewards." Then came service at St. Mary's and "an excellent sermon" by "Master Tomkys."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Council House.

<sup>2</sup> Better known as Sir Edward Leighton. He was not knighted till about 1590. Mr. Thomas Leighton, Sir Edward's grandfather, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1495, married Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Devereux, Lord Ferrers; so that there was relationship between the Leightons and Robert, Earl of Essex.

<sup>3</sup> See *Taylor MS.* There is an entry in the school accounts for the year from November 16th, 1583, of 2s. 5d. paid for cleaning the school on the occasion of Lord Leicester's visit.

<sup>4</sup> The Rev. John Tomkys, a native of Staffordshire, was appointed Curate of St. Mary's and Public Preacher in 1582. He was still holding these offices on February 15th, 159½, when he received a licence from the Rev. Andrew Dager,

After dinner the Earl took his departure from Shrewsbury, proceeding homeward by Oswestry, Denbigh, and Chester.

Two years afterwards the young Earl of Essex again visited the town. The account of his reception is interesting, as containing the only record of England's time-honoured institution of archery in connection with the school.<sup>1</sup>

Later on in the same year occurred another of these pageants which occupied so noticeable a place in the school life of the sixteenth century, and in which the compiler of the *Taylor MS.* seems to have taken such delight. The particular form which the military display took upon this occasion was a reflection of the anxiety which was then so widely prevalent in England about the plots which public rumour was continually attributing to the papists to assassinate Elizabeth and place Mary Queen of Scots upon the throne.<sup>2</sup> The scene of this pageant was the Quarry, or, as it was then called, "Behind the Walls." It is the last recorded in the *Taylor MS.* There is indeed but little to be found bearing upon school matters among the remaining incidents which are there related. The chronicle itself came to an end in 1604, probably owing to the death of the compiler.

Meighen's head-mastership lasted more than fifty years,

Minister of St. Alkmund's to "eat flesh in Lent, on the ground of sickness." He died June 23rd, 1592. The chronicler speaks of him as "a famous learned man." He seems to have been in great favour with the Shrewsbury puritans. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY's *History of Shrewsbury*.)

<sup>1</sup> "This yeare and the xxvth daye of maye Lord Robert devereux, yonge Earle of Essex, cam from master leightons of wattilsborowe, throughe the towne of Shreusberie, before whom was made soondrie oracons by the scollars of the free scoole, and, standing in battle raye, w<sup>th</sup> bowes and arrows, at hys passadge through the castlegate, reioysyd at the sight of them giving them greate rewards w<sup>he</sup> harty thancks"—*Taylor MS.*, 1585.

<sup>2</sup> "This yeare and the 8 daye of September beinge thursdaye the scollars of the free scoole in shreusberie made a triumphe in warlicke man<sup>9</sup> in a feeld there callyd behinde the walls against the pope's army and other rebells whom they trivmphantly vanquished to the greate reioysinge of the beholders departing from the filld throughe the towne victoriously towards the Castell there beinge over the towne where they w<sup>he</sup> soownde of trompet dromme and shoutes sowndid owt their victry w<sup>he</sup> greate fyers mad and thankfull psalmes most joyfully soonge to god in the comfortable hearinge of all the towne w<sup>he</sup> ioyfull and harty thanksgivinge."—*Taylor MS.*

and he lived to see most of the objects accomplished which the ordinances as to the disposal of the stock remnant contemplated. Houses were provided for the second and third masters; a library and a gallery were built, and the former was furnished with books; a country house was built at Grinshill, a few miles away from Shrewsbury, to which the masters and boys might resort in time of plague or sickness. The school-house at Shrewsbury, which was of timber, was taken down and entirely rebuilt of white freestone; a chapel also, adjoining the school-rooms, was completed and consecrated.<sup>1</sup> Many changes naturally took place in the staff of masters during Meighen's time. Richard Atkys, the third master, died on July 21st, 1587, after twenty-six years' service, and "was burried in the Scholler's Chappell, in St. Marie's Church, the next day after beyng Saturday in the morning, all the schollers of the whole schole goyng before the herse to the church and the rest of the schoolem<sup>rs</sup> then remaininge followinge, next after his children, before the magistrates."<sup>2</sup> On August 1st the Bailiffs wrote to St. John's College to notify the vacancy, suggesting in their letter the appointment of William Bailly, B.A., of St. John's College, who was the "legitimate son of Mr. John Bailly, gentleman, a free burgess of Shrewsbury."<sup>3</sup> The college elected Mr. Bailly on August 9th, and on August 23rd

<sup>1</sup> See STOW's *Chronicle of England*, augmented by Edward Howes (London, 1631), OWEN's *Arms of the Bailiffs*, and OWEN and BLAKEWAY's *Shrewsbury*.

<sup>2</sup> See school register. Richard Atkys was in holy orders, and appears to have held the cure of Sutton Church, where his name is cut in full on the reading desk, "Richarde Atkis. 3. Scholemaster. 1582." The account of his death and burial in the school register was very inaccurately copied in COLLINS's *Public Schools*, there being no less than six mistakes in transcribing. The worst error was in taking *Saturday* for *Palm Sunday*. The time of year, July, should have made such a mistake impossible. Unfortunately all these errors have since been reproduced verbatim elsewhere.

<sup>3</sup> For the letters as to the vacancy and election see BAKER's *Hist. of St. John's College* and the school account-book. The new master's name seems to have been spelt indifferently Bailly, Bailey, and Baylie. He was entered at school as a boy in November, 1580, and graduated B.A. in 1586. According to Phillips he was in holy orders. He was formally admitted third master on August 31st, and the customary banquet was held in "the lower chamber next to the accidence school, within the school court,"—School register.



the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry formally expressed his approval.

In the following year, on November 12th, Roger Kent, who had been master of the Accidence School since its first foundation, about 1577, died, and was buried next day in St. Mary's Church, with much the same formalities as Richard Atkys.<sup>1</sup>

No provision had been made in the ordinances as to the manner in which the Accidence master was to be elected, and in consequence there was some delay in the appointment of his successor. But on January 23rd, 1588, Mr. Ralph Jones<sup>2</sup> was formally "admitted teacher of the Accidence School," Meighen and the Bailiffs having wisely agreed to make a joint election.<sup>3</sup> The next change in the staff was consequent on the resignation of Mr. William Bailey, the third master, on October 30th, 1594. The Bailiffs wrote on the following day to the college authorities to notify the vacancy, and recommended Ralph Gittins, B.A., a scholar of St. John's College and duly qualified under the ordinances, to their notice. On November 15th the master and seniors wrote to say that they had elected Ralph Gittins to the third-mastership, "having experience of his good conversation."<sup>4</sup> Ralph Gittins' career at Shrewsbury, which did not finally close till 1638, will be dealt with in a subsequent chapter, in which also will be found some account of the other changes in the magisterial staff up to the time of Meighen's resignation. From time to time notes occur in the school register in Meighen's handwriting of money received by him for the

<sup>1</sup> 1588. "In this yeare on the xii<sup>th</sup> day of November between the houres of one and two of the clocke in the afternoone, Roger Kent, late schoolem<sup>r</sup> of the fourth or accidence schoole dep<sup>t</sup>ed this life. And was buried in the Scholers' chapell in St. Marie's Church the next day after beyinge Wednesday in the morninge, all the scholers of the whole schoole goynge before the hearse to church by two and two, and the rest of the schoolem<sup>rs</sup> then remaininge followinge next after, before the magistrates."—School register.

<sup>2</sup> *Ralph Jones* was entered at Shrewsbury School in 1579. Phillips says he was in holy orders. He subsequently became third master, and did not resign before 1627. He was still living in 1637, and was then in receipt of a pension, (See school account-book, school register, &c.)

<sup>3</sup> This mode of election was permanently adopted in 1591 by the advice of counsel.

<sup>4</sup> See BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*.



materials of the old timber structures, which were gradually removed as the new buildings of "freestone" took their place. On September 4th, 1587, the Bailiffs wrote to St. John's College for permission to take money from the school-chest for necessary repairs and for the building of a library and gallery. But though the college signified its assent on September 11th, the library and gallery do not seem to have been in hand before the year 1594-95.<sup>1</sup> Something must have been done previously in the way of clearing the ground, as Meighen accounts as early as 1591 for certain "stuffe of the schooles sold," consisting of timber and mortar and lime. By June 24th, 1612, houses for the masters, as well as the library and gallery, seem to have been completed, for we find the Bailiffs writing word on that day that "all the buildings . . . to be erected before the country school-house" were finished. We read also in the school register that on October 1st, 1614, the Bailiffs and Schoolmasters had wine and cakes in the library "instead of a banket." The school account-book shows that the storm of March 21st, 159 $\frac{3}{4}$ , which is recorded in the *Taylor MS.* to have done serious damage to the tower and spire of St. Mary's Church, was also the cause of considerable injury to the masters' houses and other school-buildings. Probably the damage done by this storm had the effect of hurrying on the commencement of the new buildings in the following year.

On June 24th, 1612, the library being now finished, the Bailiffs asked leave of the college to take £100 from the school-chest to buy books, adding that, after this, it would only be necessary to spend £10 now and then in this way.<sup>2</sup> The master and seniors seem to have objected to the library being furnished with books before the scholarships at St. John's, spoken of in the ordinances, were founded, and it was not till May, 1616, after the Bailiffs had declared their intention of founding two scholarships, and building a school-house in the country in the course of that summer,<sup>3</sup> that

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i, p. 478. The Lord Chancellor had recommended, in his decree of June 28th, 1613, that books should be purchased for the library. (*Hotchkiss MSS.*)

the college gave its sanction to the expenditure of £100 on books.<sup>1</sup> The selection was entrusted to Meighen, and the school accounts show that he spent on books, during the year from November 16th, 1616, £79 6s. 3½d. out of that sum. The college also assented at the same time to the Bailiffs' proposal to take £240 out of the school-chest for the erection of a school-house at Grinshill,<sup>2</sup> and, on September 14th, 1616, leave was given to take a further sum of £100 on account of the "doubtfulness of the ground whereuppon the building is sett."<sup>3</sup> So some beginning must have been made in the matter, though the Bailiffs cannot have proceeded far, as on July 9th, 1621, the college, while sending a licence to spend an additional £100 on the country school-house, requested that the licence might be returned if not used, since former licences had not been carried into effect.<sup>4</sup>

The *sweating sickness*, as has been before mentioned, frequently visited Shrewsbury, and was a serious hindrance to the prosperity of the school. We have seen that educational work there was suspended for several months in 1575-76 in consequence of the prevalence of this plague. It broke out again in the beginning of June, 1604, and raged with great violence till April, 1605. During this time 667 persons died in Shrewsbury, including the two Bailiffs for the year. The streets are said to have been so little frequented that they became mostly overgrown with grass.<sup>5</sup> The school dispersed at Midsummer, 1604, and did not reassemble before May, 1605.

There is no record of the school-house at Grinshill having been used before 1631. In that year no entry was made in the school register between July 4th and September 26th; but between the latter date and November 2nd a few boys' names are entered as admitted at Grinshill. The audit

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book.

<sup>2</sup> Grenshil seems to have been the old name of the place.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 479.

<sup>4</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 485. In 1623 the Bailiffs applied for an additional sum of £100 for the house at Grinshill.

<sup>5</sup> See PHILLIPS'S *Shrewsbury* and the school register.

took place, as usual, on November 16th, in the Exchequer, but Meighen was not present. He notes in the register that he was at the time "at Grinshill with the schoole because of the sickness then raiging in the towne," and "was unable to travayle by reason of sickness then comynge uppon" him. His son-in-law, Thomas Hayward, represented him at the audit.<sup>1</sup> This Thomas Hayward, whose name is again mentioned in Meighen's notice of the audit of November 16th, 1635, was the eldest son of Mr. Thomas Hayward, of Balderton Hall, Middle, Shropshire, and was entered in the highest school at Shrewsbury, together with his brother George, on June 15th, 1607. He married Alice Meighen, daughter of his old schoolmaster, and seems to have subsequently resided for some years at Middle. A contemporary describes him as "a comely genteel person" and "a good scholar," who wrote "a very clarke-like hand." He speaks of him also as "a good farmer," but says that he neglected his business, his wife's shrewdness driving him to the alehouse for food, and his own popularity keeping him there longer than necessary. That outspoken person, Mr. Gough, of Middle, in whose chronicle these details are found, accuses Mrs. Hayward of extravagance as well as of shrewdness. Whoever may have been in fault, Thomas Hayward managed to get through a good property.<sup>2</sup> In later years he lived in Shrewsbury, and was supported in his old age by his brother Richard.<sup>3</sup> He was buried in St. Mary's churchyard.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> It does not appear from the school register when the boys returned to Shrewsbury. But a petition from the Rev. Thomas Lloyd, Vicar of St. Alkmund's, to the Corporation of Shrewsbury, on March 30th, 1632, shows that the plague was then still raging in the town. Gough mentions in his *History of Middle* that the school migrated again to Grinshill in the year 1649, in consequence of the prevalence of the plague in Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> He owned lands in Newton and Whixall, and his wife seems to have brought him houses in Shrewsbury as well as money. (GOUGH's *Middle*.)

<sup>3</sup> It is probable that this is a mistake of Gough's, and that he should have written "his brother-in-law, Richard Meighen."

<sup>4</sup> See GOUGH's *Middle*. Gough adds that Thomas Hayward's two sons, Robert and Thomas, were apprenticed, and that his daughter went into service. His wife Alice survived till 1660, and was buried at Middle. Alice Meighen was baptised at St. Mary's, November 24th, 1599, and was married to Thomas



Three sons of Meighen were educated at Shrewsbury, Richard,<sup>1</sup> Thomas,<sup>2</sup> and Godson.<sup>3</sup> The two latter graduated at Jesus College, Cambridge, and Godson is described in the register of benefactors under the year 1625 as "Preacher of God's Word." Richard became a bookseller and publisher in London. Their mother was "Mistress Joan Headley,"<sup>4</sup> whom Meighen married at St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, on September 23rd, 1587.

On September 10th, 1617, the newly-finished room on the ground floor under the library was consecrated by Dr. John Overall, the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, as the school chapel. The consecration sermon was preached by the Rev. Sampson Price, D.D., Incumbent of All-Hallows-the-More, Thames Street, London, a former scholar of Shrewsbury.<sup>5</sup> It was subsequently printed and published by Richard Meighen, under the title *The Beauty of Holiness; or, the Consecration of a House of Prayer by the Example of our Saviour, &c.* It has been already mentioned that in 1582 the chapel on the south side of the chancel of St. Mary's, which was known thenceforth as "the scholars' chapel," was repaired and beautified at the school charges, to the intent

Hayward September 30th, 1630. Three of their children were baptised at St. Mary's: Robert on August 12th, 1632; Mary on November 11th, 1634 (buried January 12th), and Elizabeth on January 6th, 1635. Thomas Hayward is described by Chaloner as one of his familiar friends at Shrewsbury. They were probably at school together. He was still living in 1652.

<sup>1</sup> *Richard Meighen* was baptised at St. Mary's, February 7th, 1588, and admitted to the school on April 29th, 1606. A boy of the same name entered in 1594 was probably a son of Mr. Richard Meighen, who was baptised at St. Julian's March 17th, 1582.

<sup>2</sup> *Thomas Meighen* was baptised at St. Mary's, January 13th, 1592. He was entered in the highest school on January 10th, 1602, and admitted at Jesus College, Cambridge, March 31st, 1610; B.A., 1614; M.A., 1620.

<sup>3</sup> *Godson Meighen* was baptised at St. Mary's, November 30th, 1598. Entered Shrewsbury April 1st, 1609; Scholar of Jesus College, Cambridge, July 11th, 1618; B.A., 1619; Benefactor to school library, 1623 and 1625.

<sup>4</sup> Joan Meighen, wife of John Meighen, was buried at St. Mary's, July 15th, 1636, surviving her husband only a few months.

<sup>5</sup> *Sampson Price*, son of the Rev. Thomas Price, Vicar of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, was born in 1586, and entered Shrewsbury School on November 2nd, 1601, but made but a short stay at school, matriculating at Exeter College, Oxford, as cler. fil. of Salop in April, 1602, at the age of sixteen. For further details of his career see later on.



that on Sundays, holidays, and half-holidays the masters and scholars should resort there for divine service and the religious instruction of the boys. Seats were also provided for them in the chancel when sermons were preached.

But, for some reason or other, the custom of frequenting St. Mary's Church seems to have been given up about 1605 or 1606, and in a Chancery Decree of Lord Ellesmere on June 28th, 1613, the masters were ordered to resume the practice. Directions were also given that the chapel should be kept in repair out of the school funds, and that a suitable allowance should be made to the curate of St. Mary's, or some other sufficient person, to be chosen by the Bailiffs and Head Master, for saying the service and catechising the scholars.<sup>1</sup> Until the consecration of the chapel attached to the school-buildings the curate of St. Mary's acted as catechist; but when the boys acquired their own chapel apart from St. Mary's he could no longer discharge those duties, and the Rev. John Foorde was appointed catechist at a salary of £20.<sup>2</sup> Probably the room under the library was not originally intended for a chapel; but when it became inconvenient to frequent St. Mary's for divine service, it was resolved to adapt it for the purpose. In 1623 the school was relieved by the Court of Chancery from the obligation of keeping in repair the school chapel in St. Mary's, and the payment of £20 per annum to the catechist for teaching in the new chapel was sanctioned at the same time.<sup>3</sup>

The register book for the library from 1596 to 1634 gives us in Meighen's handwriting the names of old scholars and other friends of the school who, between these dates, gave books to the school library, or money to purchase them. The Head Master's father, who died in February, 161 $\frac{2}{3}$ , left 20s. to be spent in books at the discretion of his son. It is probable also that Richard Meighen, the London bookseller, was instrumental in obtaining some of the many gifts which

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> See school account-book. Mr. Foorde continued to hold the office till 1627. He died in August, 1628, and was buried at St. Mary's.

<sup>3</sup> *Hotchkiss MSS.*



THE CHAPEL IN THE OLD SCHOOL.



were made to the library in 1617 and subsequent years by citizens and merchants of London. His own name does not occur in the list till 1630. He is described as citizen and stationer of London. The iron rods and chains with which Meighen fitted up the presses in the library for the better security of the books, and the care with which he entered the names of donors in the register, appear to indicate considerable interest on his part in the matter; but, strangely enough, there is no record of his having presented any books himself. We even find him making a charge of £2 in 1631-32 for copying into the register the names of books and benefactors.<sup>1</sup>

Although during Meighen's long career as Head Master the prosperity of the school was marred from time to time by outbreaks of sickness in the town, by serious controversies between him and the Bailiffs, and, during his last few years, when he retained the general superintendence of the school, although unable to continue teaching in the highest room, by the evils attendant on a divided government, we find Shrewsbury described in 1627, as it had been before described by Camden in Lawrence's time, as "the best filled school in England." Thomas Pritchard, Archdeacon of Llandaff and Vice-President of Jesus College, Oxford, testified to this effect in a note made in a book which he presented to the library of his old school in this year, where he calls Shrewsbury his "Dulcissima Nutrix," and describes it as "totius Angliæ numerosissima Schola."<sup>2</sup>

The average entry of boys during the fifty-two years of

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book and register of benefactors.

<sup>2</sup> The Archdeacon was entered in the second school on July 19th, 1607, as an alien. In 1610 he matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, as cler. fil. of Pembrokeshire, aged nineteen; B.A., 1613; M.A., 1615; D.D., 1628; Archdeacon of Llandaff, 1627. He probably died during the Commonwealth, as his archdeaconry was filled up in 1660. (WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.*) Several boys of his name were entered at Shrewsbury School between 1602 and 1616, but the only *alien* was entered in 1607. Blakeway somewhat hastily identified the oppidan who entered school in 1612 with the Pembrokeshire man who matriculated at Oxford in 1610. Pritchard's use of Camden's words renders it doubtful whether he is not referring more to the past glories of the school than to its prosperity at the time he was writing.



Meighen's head-mastership exceeded ninety-seven. It is interesting to note in the register, towards the close of the sixteenth century, the gradual disuse of the patronymic Ap, and the adoption, in Wales and the bordering counties, of permanent surnames. Between 1562 and 1590 we find no less than 557 names with the Welsh prefix in question, while subsequently to 1590 it occurs only eighty-five times. Ap David becomes Davies; Ap Edward, Edwardes; Ap Griffith, Griffiths or Griffies; Ap John, Johnes or Jones; Ap Richard, Richards or Richardson or Pritchard; Ap Hugh, Hughes or Pugh; Ap Owen, Owens, Owen, or Bowen; Ap Thomas, Thomas; Ap William, Williams; Ap Rees, Prees, Preece, or Price; Ap Robert, Roberts or Probart. There are several other names in the school register of a similar class, but those mentioned are the most important. Powel seems to have almost entirely supplanted Ap Howel at a comparatively early date. The forms Bedwarde, Bevan, Probart, and Pigeon, for Ap Edward, Ap Evan, Ap Robert, and Ap John, are rare. The name Prothero does not occur in the school register, but there are several examples of its older forms, Ap Retherche, Ap Rithroughe, Ap Rhetoroch, Pretherche, and Pretheroughe.

Meighen appears to have ceased to teach in the highest school early in 1632, but it was not till March, 163 $\frac{4}{8}$ , that the Bailiffs entered into negotiations with St. John's College, with a view to his resignation of the head-mastership. Ultimately it was arranged, with the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, that Meighen should receive £100 down and an annual pension of £20, and should also have the use of the school-house at Grinshill for his life. In September, 1635, he formally resigned the office he had held so long, and his death followed a few months after. On February 3rd, 163 $\frac{5}{8}$ , he was buried in St. Mary's Church.

Incidental mention has been made already of some of Meighen's Shrewsbury pupils, and it will be well to add here a few notes as to the after life of others who attained distinction in the world. Some of them became bishops.

John Hanmer,<sup>1</sup> who entered school in 1585, after graduating at Oxford, was made in due course Rector of Bingham, in Nottinghamshire, a Prebendary of Worcester, Chaplain to the King, and, in 1623, Bishop of St. Asaph.

Morgan Owen,<sup>2</sup> a native of Carmarthenshire, who, while residing at Oxford, built at his own cost the porch of St. Mary's Church, was consecrated Bishop of Llandaff in 1638. Edward Wolley<sup>3</sup> was a native of Shrewsbury and a graduate of St. John's College, Cambridge. His first preferment was the Rectory of Adderley, in Shropshire. Subsequently the King presented him to the Wardenship of Manchester and Rectory of Croxton, which were worth together £1400 a year. Dr. Wolley was a staunch loyalist, and is said by Baker to have done and suffered many things during the Rebellion for his King, for his church, for liberty, and for the laws, strenuously defending his oppressed country with his tongue, his pen, and, for aught he knew, with his sword. Certainly he lost all his preferments, and was banished. After the Restoration he lost no time in bringing his various claims before Charles II. On October 1st, 1660, he petitioned the King, asking for one of the four Sees of Lichfield,

<sup>1</sup> *John Hanmer* was second son of Mr. David Hanmer, of Pentrepant, near Oswestry, who had himself been at Shrewsbury. He matriculated at Oriol College, Oxford, in 1592, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged sixteen. B.A. in 1597; M.A. in 1600; B.D. in 1615; D.D. in 1616; Fellow of All Souls, 1596; Proctor, 1605. Died at Pentrepant July 23rd, 1629, and was buried at Selattyn, where there is a brass to his memory. (*Blakeway MSS.*; *WOOD's Athen. Oxon.*; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Morgan Owen* entered school in 1595. He matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, on December 16th, 1608, as pleb. fil., aged twenty-three; B.A., 1609; M.A. (Hart Hall), 1616; D.D. (Jesus College), 1636. He was impeached with other bishops in 1641 for protesting against the Acts of the Long Parliament, and was imprisoned in the Tower for six months. He died in 1645. He endowed Carmarthen School with £30 per annum. (*WOOD's Athen. Oxon.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Edward Wolley* was second son of Mr. Thomas Wolley, of Shrewsbury, Vintner, Bailiff in 1619. He was baptised at St. Julian's January 31st, 160 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; entered school, or rather was promoted from the Accidence School, December 13th, 1613, and was re-entered in 1619 in the highest school. On April 13th, 1622, he was admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge. When made Rector of Adderley in 1638 he was then only B.A. He was with the King at Oxford, and was admitted there to the degree of D.D. on December 20th, 1643. (*Calendar of State Papers, Domestic*; *BAKER's Hist. of St. John's College*; *WOOD's Fasti*; *Blakeway MSS.*)

Hereford, Peterborough, or Bristol. A few months later, on December 5th, 1660, he wrote again, making the more humble request that he might be appointed Dean of Lichfield. But he does not appear to have obtained any preferment, although King Charles made him his Chaplain, till 1662, when he received the Rectory of Toppesfield, in Essex. In 1665 he was consecrated at Tuam Bishop of Clonfert and Kilmacogh, in Ireland. He died in 1684. Burnet tells an ill-natured story about Bishop Wolley, which Cole entirely disbelieved, but for which there was probably some foundation. After all, the story is more to the discredit of the King than of the Bishop. Its purport is that the King told Burnet that a chaplain of his, "a great blockhead," to whom he had given a living in Suffolk, made friends with the nonconformists in his parish. What he said to them, the King added, he could not think, as he was a very silly fellow, but his nonsense suited their nonsense, and he got them all to church. So he had made him an Irish bishop.

Francis Dee,<sup>1</sup> Bishop of Peterborough, was also probably at Shrewsbury School, though only for the last few months before he went to Cambridge. Daniel Price,<sup>2</sup> Dean of

<sup>1</sup> *Francis Dee* was son of the Rev. David Dee, a native of Shropshire, who was made Rector of Great St. Bartholomew in London in 1587. He was admitted at Merchant Tailors' School on April 26th, 1591, and seems to have removed to Shrewsbury on October 17th, 1594. In 1596 he became a scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1600; M.A., 1603; B.D., 1617; Rector of Holy Trinity, London, 1606-1620; Minister of All Hallows, Lombard Street, 1615-1634; Chancellor of Salisbury, 1618; Dean of Chichester, 1630; Bishop of Peterborough, 1634. Died October 8th, 1638. (See *Hist. of St. John's College*; *NEWCOURT'S Repertorium*; *WOOD'S Athen. Oxon.*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Daniel Price* entered school June 7th, 1596, and matriculated at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, in 1597, at the age of sixteen. He afterwards removed to Exeter College, where he graduated B.A. in 1602, M.A. in 1604, B.D. in 1611, and D.D. in 1613; Rector of Worthen in Shropshire and Llanteglos in Cornwall; Chaplain to Prince Henry and Prince Charles, as well as to the King; J.P. for the counties of Shropshire, Cornwall, and Montgomery. Bishop Corbet, of Norwich, is responsible for a coarse but telling epigram, which alludes to the Dean's annual sermon on the anniversary of the death of Prince Henry. Wood has a long article on Daniel Price. Among other stories about him he quotes one from a book called *Puritanism, the Mother; Sin, the Daughter*, to the effect that he became a Roman Catholic on his death-bed. He died September 23rd, 1631, and was buried at Worthen, where there is a monument to his memory. (See *Athen. Oxon.*, and OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)



Hereford, and his brother, Sampson Price,<sup>1</sup> Prebendary of Hereford, were clergymen of some note in their day, and also prolific writers. Both were royal chaplains. Sampson Price was a great controversialist, and known as "*Malleus Hæreticorum*." Their father was the Rev. Thomas Price, curate of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. Francis Gibbons,<sup>2</sup> another Shrewsbury-born boy, also became a royal chaplain in the reign of Charles I. Richard Allestree,<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Sampson Price* was born in 1585, and entered Shrewsbury November 2nd, 1601. After little more than a year at school he proceeded to Exeter College, Oxford; but he graduated, B.A. in 1606 and M.A. in 1608, as a member of Hart Hall. Again at Exeter, when he took the degrees of B.D. in 1615, and D.D. in 1617. It was in this year that he preached the sermon at the consecration of Shrewsbury School Chapel. At this time he was Vicar of Christ Church, London, having been appointed to that cure in October, 1617. His first preferment seems to have been that of "Preacher and Parson of Carfax in Oxford." He held those offices in 1607. Subsequently he was made lecturer, first of St. Olave's, London, and then of St. Gregory's, adjoining St. Paul's Church, London. On June 28th, 1617, he was appointed Incumbent of All-Hallows-the-More, Thames Street, London. In 1620 he received a patent of appointment to the curacy of St. Chad, Shrewsbury, but it does not seem certain that he ever discharged its duties. He died in 1630, and was buried in Christ Church, London. (See WOOD'S *Athen. Oxon.*, and OWEN and BLAKEWAY.) Benefactor to school library, 1607 and 1611.

<sup>2</sup> *Francis Gibbons* was second son of Mr. Nicholas Gibbons, of the Abbey Foregate, coroner of Shrewsbury. He was baptised at St. Julian's, July 19th, 1588; entered school October 14th, 1597, and re-entered December 10th, 1601; matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1602, as gen. fil. of Salop, aged thirteen; B.A., 1607; M.A., 1609; B.D., 1616; D.D., 1618. On February 16th, 1618, he was presented by Lord Chancellor Egerton to the living of Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, on the recommendation of Dr. Watson and Dr. Peryn; and in 1616 he was made Rector of Aberdaron in Anglesey. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> *Richard Allestree* was a son of Mr. Robert Allestree, of Uppington, Salop, steward to the Newport family. He was born in March, 1619, and was sent at an early age to Wroxeter School, then recently founded by Sir Richard Newport. Richard Baxter was head boy at the time, and when Allestree, who was four years younger, was promoted to his form, he took the matter so ill as to talk of leaving school. But his master, he tells us, rebuked him gravely but tenderly, and made him write a theme on the subject, "*Ne sutor ultra crepidam*." On January 20th, 1633, Allestree removed to Shrewsbury, and was at once placed in the highest school. But he could not have remained long, as Bishop Fell and Antony Wood both speak of his education at Coventry School, and he matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1636, at the age of seventeen. Allestree was expelled from Oxford by the Parliamentary Visitors in 1648, but he returned after the Restoration, when he became Canon of Christ Church and Regius Professor of Divinity. He was made Provost of Eton in



Provost of Eton and Chaplain to Charles II., was Student and Tutor of Christ Church at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War. He fought as a private soldier at Edgehill and Oxford. Another Oxford Salopian, Edward Corbett,<sup>1</sup> of Merton College, who was for a short time Public Orator and Canon of Christ Church, was one of the few Shrewsbury-bred clergymen who took the side of the Parliament in the Civil Wars. He was one of the Seven Preachers appointed by the House of Commons in 1646 to convert the loyal scholars of Oxford. Wood calls him "a person of conscience and honesty."

Among the lawyers who were educated at Shrewsbury in Meighen's time the most prominent was Sir Thomas Jones,<sup>2</sup> Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in 1683, who had previously been a judge in the Court of King's Bench. He was deprived, with three other judges, on April 21st, 1686,

1665, and resided there till his death in 1680. A volume of his sermons was published in 1684, with a biographical notice by Fell, Bishop of Oxford. (See FULLER'S *Worthies*; WOOD'S *Athen. Oxon.*; OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*; BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shropshire*, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> *Edward Corbett* was second son of Mr. Robert Corbett, of Pontesbury, Salop. He was baptised at Pontesbury on June 1st, 1600, and, on his entering Shrewsbury, June 1st, 1613, was placed in the highest school. He matriculated at Merton in June, 1621 (?), as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged nineteen (?); graduated B.A. in 1623; M.A. in 1628; and D.D. in 1648; Probationer fellow, 1624; Proctor, 1638. Married Margaret, daughter of Sir Nathaniel Brent. Rector of Chartham, Kent, 1643-46, and afterwards Rector of Great Hasley, Oxfordshire. Edward Corbett preached before Parliament at Laud's trial, and was also produced as a witness against the archbishop. He died in London, January 5th, 1657, and was buried at Hasley. In his will he left various Latin commentaries on the Scriptures to the school library. The date of Corbett's matriculation is probably wrongly given in the printed Oxford lists, and should be 1620. (*Blakeway MSS.*; *Athen. Oxon.*; WOOD'S *Fasti*, etc.)

<sup>2</sup> *Sir Thomas Jones* was second son of Edward Jones, Esq., Steward of Shrewsbury. He was born in 1614, entered Shrewsbury School in January, 1623, and was admitted at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, in 1629, on the same day as his elder brother William, who was, in after days, Recorder of Shrewsbury. Thomas Jones became a Student of Lincoln's Inn in 1629, and was called to the Bar in 1634; Serjeant-at-Law in 1669; King's Serjeant in 1671; Justice of the King's Bench in 1676; and Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in 1683. Before he was raised to the Bench Thomas Jones was Town Clerk of Shrewsbury 1660-62. He also represented the borough in the Parliaments of 1660 and 1661. Died in May, 1692, and was buried in St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury. (See FOSS'S *Judges of England*; BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shrewsbury*; NORTH'S *Examen.*, etc.)

for refusing to acknowledge the legality of the royal dispensing power. Sir Thomas Jones is described by Roger North as "a very reverend and learned judge, a gentleman, and impartial, but, being of Welsh extraction, apt to warm."

Sir Jeremy Whichcote,<sup>1</sup> Bart., Solicitor-General to the Elector Palatine, John Corbet,<sup>2</sup> Esq., and Edward Waters,<sup>3</sup> Esq., judges of South Wales, and Thomas Owen,<sup>4</sup> Esq., Town

<sup>1</sup> *Sir Jeremy Whichcote* was the youngest son of Christopher Whichcote, Esq., of Stoke, in the parish of Greet, Shropshire. He was baptised at Burford, October 11th, 1614, and was entered at Shrewsbury as gen. fil. in 1626. Subsequently he became a Student of Lincoln's Inn. He had access to Charles I. during the greater part of his imprisonment, and was enabled to be of some help to Royalists during the exile by accepting the Wardenship of the Fleet Prison, which he did at Charles II.'s special request. Created baronet on April 2nd, 1660, his patent being dated from Brussels. Died in 1677. (See OWEN and BLAKEWAY, and *Blakeway MSS.*)

<sup>2</sup> *John Corbet* was eldest son of Mr. Richard Corbet, of Halston, Pontesbury, and was baptised at Pontesbury in 1609. On November 15th, 1626, he was entered at Shrewsbury, being placed in the first school. Student of Gray's Inn, 1627. In 1659 he was a benefactor to the school library, and is described in the register as "of Huson, Salop, Judge of South Wales." Huson is probably a mistake for Halston. In August, 1660, he was ordered to hand over his seals of office to Sir Richard Lloyd. The order describes him as "late reputed Justice of Glamorganshire, Brecknock, and Radnor." Died 1670. (*State Papers, Domestic, Calendar.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Edward Waters* was a son of Mr. John Waters, of Ludlow, and entered school in 1584. Married Martha, daughter of Sir Charles Fox of Bromfield. (*Blakeway MSS.*)

<sup>4</sup> *Thomas Owen* was third son of Edward Owen, Esq., of Shrewsbury. He entered school in 1589. His last signature as Town Clerk was in January, 1643. He was one of the prisoners taken at the capture of Shrewsbury in the following month, and was displaced as "a delinquent" on November 17th, 1645. Thomas Owen was still living in 1660, and petitioned the King soon after the Restoration to grant him the office of Prothonotary of South Wales for three lives. He pleads in his petition that he had discharged the duties of the office as deputy to Sir Thomas Gardiner, Recorder of London, during the reign of Charles I., and that after the Recorder's death the King had given him an order for a grant of the office. The grant, however, had never been executed, and the order itself had been destroyed by a fire which broke out in the lodgings of Sir Edward Herbert, the Attorney-General. Thomas Owen also urged that he had lost his own office of Town Clerk, and had been imprisoned for his loyalty. But there was a rival claimant for the office in the person of Mr. Dennington, who had bought the place in 1654 from Mr. Richard Willis, and who pleaded that he had always maintained his loyalty. The King referred the decision of the matter to the Lord Chief Baron and Lord Carbery, who reported on June 18th, 1660, in favour of Dennington, who was confirmed in the office in the following month. Thomas Owen died in May, 1661, and was buried on the 25th May at St. Chad's. (*State Papers, Domestic, Calendar*, and OWEN and BLAKEWAY's *Shrewsbury.*)

Clerk of Shrewsbury 1609-1645, and M.P. for the borough 1624-40, were also at Shrewsbury School.

Sir Thomas Higgons,<sup>1</sup> Knt., of Grewell, Hants, who entered Shrewsbury School on February 6th, 163 $\frac{1}{2}$ , sat in several Parliaments, and also attained some distinction as a diplomatist.

Sir Thomas Adams,<sup>2</sup> Bart., Lord Mayor of London in 1645, who was deputed by the City to accompany General Monk to Breda in 1660 for the purpose of attending Charles II. on his journey to London, was also a scholar of Shrewsbury.

Humphrey Mackworth,<sup>3</sup> Esq., of Betton Strange, who

<sup>1</sup> *Sir Thomas Higgons* was a son of Dr. Thomas Higgons, Rector of Westbury, Salop. He was baptised at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, on January 12th, 1623, and was entered at Shrewsbury School on February 6th, 163 $\frac{1}{2}$ . From school he proceeded to St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, in 1638, but left the university without a degree, and travelled for some time in Italy. M.P. for Malmesbury in 1658, for New Windsor in 1661, and for St. German's in Cornwall in 1685. Knighted on June 17th, 1666. In 1669 he was sent as Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Saxony to invest him with the Order of the Garter, and subsequently he was Ambassador at Vienna for three years. He died suddenly in 1691 in the Court of King's Bench, where he had been summoned as a witness, and was buried in Winchester Cathedral. Wood says that he published *A Panegyric to the King, The History of Tsuf Basse . . . Captain-General of the Ottoman Army at the Invasion of Candia*, etc. (See WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, etc.)

<sup>2</sup> *Sir Thomas Adams* was second son of Mr. Thomas Adams, tanner, of Wem, Shropshire. He was born on December 6th, 1586, and was entered at Shrewsbury School, or rather promoted from the Accidence School, on December 16th, 1594. He was still at school in 1600. Subsequently he proceeded to Jesus College, Cambridge, and graduated B.A. there in 1605. After this he engaged in business in London, and speedily rose to wealth and eminence. In 1639 he filled the office of Sheriff, and in 1645 that of Lord Mayor. He was at one time Master of the Drapers' Company, and was also President of St. Thomas's Hospital. His loyalty brought him much suffering during the Rebellion, and in 1646 he was imprisoned in the Tower. Sir Thomas was knighted by Charles II. at the Hague in 1660, and was created a baronet on June 13th, 1660. He founded and endowed the Grammar School at Wem, and a readership in Arabic at Cambridge. He also bore the expense of translating the Gospels into Persian. Died February 24th, 1665, and was buried at Sprowston, Norfolk. (See FULLER's *Worthies*; GARBETT's *History of Wem*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Humphrey Mackworth* was a son of Richard Mackworth, Esq., of Betton Strange, Salop. Admitted Student of Gray's Inn October 24th, 1621; Recorder of Shrewsbury 1645; Vice-Chamberlain of Chester 1647; Second Justice of the County Palatine 1649. He was probably president of the court martial which tried the Earl of Derby, Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, and Mr. John Benbow in 1651, as he transmitted an account of the proceedings to the House of Commons. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; *Sheriffs of Shropshire*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



was born in 1603, and entered Shrewsbury School on January 22nd, 161 $\frac{3}{4}$ , sided from the first with the Parliament, and was denounced in the King's proclamation at Bridgnorth on October 14th, 1642, as one who had "assisted the King's enemies." He was made governor of Shrewsbury after its capture in 164 $\frac{4}{5}$ , was a leading member of the "Committee for Shropshire," and held various legal appointments during the Commonwealth. He died in 1654, and, as one of Cromwell's Privy Council, was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Colonel Samuel Moore,<sup>1</sup> of Linley, and Colonel Thomas Hunt,<sup>2</sup> of Boreatton Park, two other distinguished adherents of the Parliamentary cause in Shropshire, were also educated at Shrewsbury.

Arthur Hopton,<sup>3</sup> fourth son of Richard Hopton, Esq., of Hopton, Shropshire, who is confused by Wood with another Arthur Hopton of much the same age, the son of Sir Arthur Hopton, of Wytham, Somersetshire, was a mathematician of

<sup>1</sup> *Colonel Samuel Moore* was eldest son of Richard Moore, Esq., of Linley, More and Larden, Salop. Born 1594, so that he must have been nearly fifteen years old when he entered Shrewsbury in 1609, an age which accounts for his being placed at once in the highest school. Succeeded to his father's estates in 1643; governor of Ludlow in 1646, and of Hereford in 1647. M.P. for Shropshire in Cromwell's Parliament of 1656. In this year he published a translation of MEDE'S *Clavis Apocalyptica*. (*State Papers, Domestic, Calendar*; OWEN and BLAKEWAY; and BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shropshire*.)

<sup>2</sup> *Colonel Thomas Hunt*, son of Mr. Richard Hunt, Alderman of Shrewsbury, and Bailiff in 1613, 1622, and 1631, was baptised at St. Alkmond's on December 25th, 1599. Removed to the third school from the Accidence School on December 14th, 1609. Admitted Student of Gray's Inn August 10th, 1627; denounced as an enemy of the King in the Bridgnorth proclamation of October 14th, 1642; governor of Wem after its capture by Colonel Mytton; elected M.P. for Shrewsbury in 1645 in the place of Francis Newport, Esq., who had been disabled by vote of the House of Commons. Baxter speaks of Colonel Hunt as "a plain-hearted, honest, godly man, entirely beloved by his soldiers for his honesty," and Henry calls him "an Israelite indeed in whom there was no guile." He bought the Boreatton estate from the Harris family after the Restoration. Died in April, 1664, and buried at St. Alkmond's. (See BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs* and OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*.)

<sup>3</sup> *Arthur Hopton* was entered at Shrewsbury School in 1596 as arm. fil. In the *Prognostications for 1607-14* he describes himself as "of Clement's Inn, Student in Mathematics." A complimentary *Latin Acrostic* by Robert Broughton, of Owlbury, Salop, is prefixed to the *Concordance of Years*. (See *Athen. Oxon.*, and *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



distinction who died young. Wood calls him "the miracle of his age for learning," and says that he was intimate with Selden, and "much valued by him, as well as by all the noted men of his time." His chief mathematical works are entitled, *Baculum Geodaeticum sive Viaticum*; *Speculum Topographicum*; *Prognostications for 1607-14*, and *A Concordance of Years*. The two first named Arthur Hopton presented to the school library. Allusions to Shrewsbury and Shropshire are frequent in his books. A copy of verses, written by Arthur Hopton, is prefixed to Sir William Leighton's *Teares or Lamentations of a Sorrowful Soul*, in which he calls the author "my endeared kinsman." Arthur Hopton died in November, 1614, and was buried in the church of St. Clement Danes.

One pupil of Meighen's at least seems to have taken part in the defeat of the Spanish Armada. This was Piers Griffith,<sup>1</sup> son of Sir Rys Griffith, of Penrhyn, in Carnarvonshire, who was Sheriff of that county in 1567. He was entered at Shrewsbury School in 1584, together with his younger brother William, and matriculated at University College, Oxford, in 1586, though he does not appear to have taken any degree. According to Thomas's notes on the Penrhyn family, appended to Williams's *Observations on Snowdon*, Piers Griffith was present at the defeat of the Spanish Armada, and in command of a ship which he had fitted out at his own expense. His name does not occur in the list of commanders of the ships which took part in the defeat of the Spaniards, nor is he mentioned in any of the extant accounts of the fighting; but Thomas is precise in the

<sup>1</sup> *Piers Griffith* was entered at school in 1584 as M.F.H., his eldest brother being dead at the time. In a letter from Chamberlain to Carleton, dated February 28th, 160 $\frac{2}{3}$  (*State Papers, Domestic*), mention is made of a Welsh pirate, named Griffith, who had been taken at Cork, and whose lands, worth £500 a year, were reported to be given to Lord Grey. This letter gives some confirmation to the truth of the buccaneering story. The Rev. John Thomas, on whose authority it rests, was Head Master of Beaumaris Grammar School. He states that William Griffith, youngest son of Sir Rys Griffith, was alive in 1644. If this be true he cannot have been the serjeant-at-arms who was buried in February, 163 $\frac{8}{9}$ . (See *CHESTER'S Register of Westminster Abbey*; *WILLIAMS'S Observations on Snowdon*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, and *Biog. Dict. of Eminent Welshmen.*)

details which he gives. He says that Piers Griffith sailed from Beaumaris on April 20th, 1588, and reached Plymouth on May 4th. On his arrival Sir Henry Cavendish sent him an invitation to dine on board Sir Francis Drake's ship, where he was honourably received and highly commended for loyalty and public spirit. There is a traditional story that Piers Griffith accompanied Drake and Raleigh in their cruise on the Spanish coast, and that he subsequently engaged in buccaneering practices at a time when England and Spain were at peace. Proceedings are said to have been taken against him at the request of Count Gondomar, the Spanish Ambassador, and such heavy fines inflicted upon him as to compel the mortgage, and afterwards the sale, of his Penrhyn estate, which was bought in 1616 by Dr. John Williams, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal. Doubts have been expressed as to the truth of this story, owing to the absence of any records of Gondomar's complaints. Piers Griffith was buried in Westminster Abbey on August 21st, 1628. William Griffith, Serjeant-at-Arms to the King, who in his will had expressed a desire to be buried near his kinsman, Piers Griffith, was probably his brother, who entered Shrewsbury School on the same day as himself.

Mention has been made of the erection of the library, gallery, chapel, and country school-house. The last grant of which we can find any mention that refers to any of these was made in 1623.

In the course of the same year an order was issued by the Corporation that a conference should take place with the Head Master as to the advisability of taking down the old school-house, which is described as built of wood, and building it up anew, with freestone or otherwise, as might be determined at the conference. The old building no doubt was one of those black and white half-timbered houses, of which many fine specimens are still to be seen in Shrewsbury. The result of the conference was that it was determined to use the same kind of freestone as that which had already been employed for the chapel and library. But the work does not seem to have been commenced till 1627,

and it was not completed till 1630.<sup>1</sup> From first to last Meighen appears to have superintended the building operations, and for doing this he received a special payment from the school funds. To him, indeed, Robert Owen, the Herald, and others of his contemporaries, give the chief credit for the erection of the various school-buildings. The two figures which surmount the Corinthian columns on either side of the central archway, representing, the one a scholar and the other a student, as well as the inscription from Isocrates, "φιλομαθὴς ἐὰν ᾖς, ἔσση πολυμαθὴς," which is so arranged that *φιλομαθὴς* comes under the scholar and *πολυμαθὴς* under the student, were doubtless put up at Meighen's suggestion.<sup>2</sup> An old tradition has been preserved of a little revenge which Meighen took on the two gentlemen who were Bailiffs when the Greek inscription was put up, Mr. Owen George and Mr. George Wright, not only for the personal injuries he had suffered at the hands of the municipal authorities, but for their illegal use of school revenues and their contempt for school ordinances. The Bailiffs were anxious that their names should be placed over the archway instead of the Greek inscription, but Meighen suggested that a stone immediately above a small edifice near at hand, which had been recently dedicated to Cloacina, would be a more suitable place. On this stone, at any rate, their initials, O. G. and G. W., were still to be seen in Hotchkis's time.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> No money appears to have been expended on the new buildings after 1630-31.

<sup>2</sup> The inscription is given at Shrewsbury in capital letters and there are no accents.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*, and COLLINS'S *Public Schools*.



ARCHWAY AT THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS  
SHOWING "PHILOMATHES" AND "POLYMATHES"





## CHAPTER V.

### Meighen's Differences with the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury.

IN an edition of Stow's *Chronicle of England*, augmented by Edward Howes, which was published by Richard Meighen of London in 1631,<sup>1</sup> Howes gives a detailed account of the foundation, endowments, ordinances, and buildings of Shrewsbury School. He seems to have been intimately acquainted with John Meighen, whom he calls his "worthy and learned friend," and he makes the important statement that during the forty-eight years of his head-mastership "many attempts had been made by divers persons of place and great power, both by suits of law and otherwise, thereby, as well to waste away part of the means" of the school "as also to break and infringe some of the . . . ordinances"; but that "the means of the said school had been hitherto preserved through the good care and special endeavour of the said Mr. John Meighen," who had also "preserved from violation . . . to the uttermost of his power, and with the expense of his own purse . . . the ordinances thereof." Now, doubtless, this statement is based upon information derived from John Meighen himself. But we may reasonably suppose that Mr. Howes did not commit himself to its publication without being convinced of its accuracy, and no one can examine the evidence bearing on the subject of Meighen's various differences with the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury without acknowledging that at any rate it fully bears

<sup>1</sup> A copy is in the British Museum. The edition is rare. The publisher, who also published the sermon preached by Dr. Sampson Price at the consecration of the school chapel in 1617, is described in the register of benefactors to the school library under the year 1630 as "Citizen and Stationer of London." He was probably the Head Master's eldest son.

out Mr. Howes' account of the main objects Meighen had in view in all these differences, viz., to prevent the wasteful expenditure of the school revenues, and to secure the due observance of the school ordinances.

The first disagreement of which we have any record occurred at the audit of November 16th, 1587. Meighen notes in the school register that the Town Bailiffs, Mr. George Higgons and Mr. William Jones, "wold not allowe £5 to be taken out of the stocke remanent and to be dđ to the bailiff of the schoole w<sup>h</sup> was wonte to be done before according to the ordinances of the schoole." Some local jealousy was probably at work. The first School Bailiff, David Longdon, had died some time in December, 1586, and much difference of opinion existed in the town as to the manner in which his successor ought to be chosen, there being no provision made in the ordinances on the subject. Some held that the Bailiffs alone, and others that the Head Master alone, should have the appointment. Some again thought that it was more in accordance with the spirit of the ordinances that the Head Master and Bailiffs should make a joint election. But the majority were of opinion that the election should be made by the general voices of the burgesses.

It seems strange that an office, to which such small emoluments were attached, and which involved so much responsibility, should have been so coveted as that of the School Bailiff undoubtedly was. Almost before David Longdon was dead<sup>1</sup> we find Lord Chancellor Bromley, his brother, Sir George Bromley, and Sir Henry Townshend of Cound, writing to the Bailiffs and Head Master in warm terms in favour of John Coyde, who was a candidate for the office. Meighen and one of the Bailiffs appear to have been desirous of conferring the appointment on Coyde. But the

<sup>1</sup> The Lord Chancellor, writing from his house on December 17th, 1586, speaks of David Longdon as dead. But Sir Henry Townshend, who wrote from Cound, near Shrewsbury, describes him as "visited with sickness and not like to contynue longe in lief." Sir George Bromley did not write till February 6th, 1586, but he had asked in behalf of Coyde for the reversion of the office before Longdon's death.

other Bailiff refused his assent, insisting on the election being referred to the general voices of the burgesses of the town. In a letter, purporting to be written in behalf of the Bailiffs and Head Master to the Lord Chancellor, dated February 28th, 1587, it is absolutely asserted in support of this view that David Longdon was placed in his office by the Bailiffs and burgesses, the fact being that he was originally appointed by Ashton, and that his place was subsequently specially confirmed to him in the ordinances.

This letter the Lord Chancellor answered on March 7th, 1587. He evidently had no doubt that the proposal to elect the School Bailiff by the general voices of the burgesses was contrary to the spirit of the ordinances. It was an innovation, he said, which he could not like. He added that the opinion of learned counsel had already been taken on the matter, and that they were clear that the election should be made by the Bailiffs and Head Master. He strongly advised the Bailiffs to "leave off these questions tending to sedition and contention within the town," and to admit Coyde to the place "without putting him to further trouble or charge."

Coyde was ultimately elected on June 7th, 1587, the delay, after the Lord Chancellor had so strongly expressed his opinion, being probably due to a pressing letter which arrived soon after from the Council,<sup>1</sup> advocating the claims of Thomas Browne, draper, who had lived long in Shrewsbury, and had, "whilst God gave him the means, relieved a great multitude of poor persons in setting them on work by the trade he then used of clothing."<sup>2</sup> The advocates of the burgesses' claims, though giving way at the time, were not completely satisfied, and recourse was had once more in March, 1590, to counsels' opinion,<sup>3</sup> which, when given, was, as might be expected, completely in accordance with that of Lord Chancellor Bromley. Mr. George Higgon and Mr.

<sup>1</sup> This letter, which is dated March 18th, 1586, and signed by Lord Burghley, Lord Cobham, and Sir Francis Walsingham, is given in the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> This is the same Thomas Browne of whom mention is made in previous chapters.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.*



William Jones probably belonged to the opposing faction, and would not acknowledge John Coyde to have been properly elected School Bailiff.

In 1592 a difficulty arose about the appointment of a new curate for the church of St. Mary, Shrewsbury. The election was vested in the hands of the Bailiffs and Head Master, and they were directed by the ordinances to select "a fit man . . . brought up in the school and a graduate, being a burgess's son, or, in default, a native of Chirbury, or, in default, any of like sufficiency." The Bailiffs desired to appoint a Mr. Laughton who had not been educated at the school, and was not the son of a burgess. Meighen does not seem to have had any personal objection to the candidate; but he considered that his appointment would be an infringement of "the true meaning of the school ordinances," and refused his consent, unless the Bailiffs would "take upon themselves the peril, if any should befall." This the Bailiffs were unwilling to do, and the matter was brought before "the Justices of the Shire, assembled together in the Gullet," on November 28th, 1592.

The Justices, on being assured by the Bailiffs that the cure had been already offered to divers burgesses' sons, who had refused, called upon Meighen to give his consent "to the placing of Mr. Laughton in St. Mary's, or to show sufficient reason to the contrary," threatening, in case of his refusal, to join the Bailiffs in a letter of complaint to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. The difficulty was settled by the Justices making a formal declaration that "in their consciences they did think" Meighen might give his consent "without infringing the true meaning of the ordinance," and by their taking on themselves all responsibility for his so doing.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Laughton resigned in 1596; and on this occasion there was at least one candidate for the curacy of St. Mary who had not only statutable qualifications, but also pre-

<sup>1</sup> See school register, OWEN and BLAKEWAY's *History of Shrewsbury*, and Extracts from Corporation Orders made by Godolphin Edwardes, Esq., Mayor in 1729, as given in *Shropshire Archaeological Society's Transactions*.

ferential claims to the post. Andrew Dager,<sup>1</sup> Vicar of St. Alkmund's, made formal application for the appointment, drawing attention to the facts that he was a graduate and the son of a burgess, and had been educated at Shrewsbury School. But, as William Bright, B.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who possessed neither of these local claims, was chosen, we may conclude that Meighen was by this time convinced that he and the other electors had more discretion under the ordinances than he had formerly supposed.

Another source of dispute was the refusal of the Bailiffs on more occasions than one, when entering on their year of office, to take the appointed oath "for the true execution of the school ordinances respecting leases and expenditure." A case of this sort occurred in 1609. Robert Betton<sup>2</sup> and John Garbet, the newly-appointed Bailiffs, had declined to take the oath, and, when pressed by Meighen at the November audit to comply with the ordinance appointing this oath, persisted in their refusal. The result was that, after Meighen's own accounts had been given in, the audit came to an end, no audit being taken of the School Bailiff's accounts, and no money paid into the school-chest, which, upon this occasion, was not even opened.<sup>3</sup> Up to this time the Bailiffs had required Meighen to swear to his accounts at every audit. But on this occasion he refused to take the oath, having found on examination that there was nothing in the ordinances to justify the Bailiffs in calling upon him to do so.<sup>3</sup> Certainly the Bailiffs, as a rule, seem to have dealt with school matters in a somewhat high-handed fashion. Ignorance of the ordinances could hardly be pleaded in their defence, as on November 17th in each year they were read aloud by the Town Clerk in the presence of the Bailiffs,

<sup>1</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY. Andrew Dager was entered at Shrewsbury School early in the year November, 1580–November, 1581, paying a fee which shows his father to have been a burgess. He matriculated at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, in 1585 as pleb. fil. of Salop, and graduated B.A. in January, 1592. He became Vicar of St. Alkmund's in 1593 before he took his degree.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Robert Betton was not present at the audit, but was represented by Mr. Edward Dun.

<sup>3</sup> See school register.

Aldermen, and Common Council. The matter was rectified on November 16th in the following year, when, the new Bailiffs having taken their oaths, the School Bailiff's accounts for both years were duly audited.<sup>1</sup> Another similar refusal to take the statutable oath occurred in 1624. Mr. John Studley and Mr. Thomas Matthewes were the Bailiffs, and they are stated to have had some scruples (religious scruples it may be presumed) on the subject. The audit was adjourned till the following Saturday to give the Bailiffs an opportunity of consulting Mr. Edward Jones, the Steward of Shrewsbury. As Meighen makes no further reference to the matter we may assume that the difficulty was amicably arranged.<sup>2</sup>

But by far the most serious difference which Meighen ever had with the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury commenced in 1607. On November 27th of that year Mr. John Baker, the second master, died.<sup>3</sup> The school ordinances provided that, if a vacancy occurred in the second mastership, the third master was to succeed to the place if he were a Master of Arts, had served for two years as third master, and were "thought worthy by the Head Master and Bailiffs."

At this time Mr. Ralph Gittins,<sup>4</sup> M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, son of a Shrewsbury burgess, and "bred in the school," was third master, having been appointed to

<sup>1</sup> In the school account-book the two accounts are given under the year 1610-1611, and a memorandum is added that the Head Master had refused to join in the audit of the School Bailiff's accounts on November 16th, 1609, because the Bailiffs of the town would not take their appointed oath.

<sup>2</sup> See school re ister.

<sup>3</sup> "In this yeare 1607 on the seven and twentieth day of November beyinge Friday in the morninge about six of the clocke Mr. John Baker late second schoolem<sup>r</sup> of the free schoole dep'ted this life and was buried in the scholars chappell in St<sup>r</sup> Maries church on Sunday then next after in the morninge all the scholars of the whole schoole goyinge before the hearse to church by two and two : and the rest of the schoolem<sup>rs</sup> then remayninge followinge as mourners next after his children before the magistrates. The hearse was covered with blacke and some sheetes of verses made by scholars pinned on. Mr. Bright the publicke preacher of the towne preached the funerall sermon."—School register.

<sup>4</sup> *Ralph Gittins* was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1578 as the son of a burgess. He was a scholar and B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, at the time he was made third master in 1594.



that office in November, 1594, by the college authorities at the request of the Bailiffs. On December 9th the Head Master "pronounced, published, and openly declared" that he thought Gittins "worthie . . . for his skill and diligence" . . . to be promoted to "the second roome," and "did also require the consents of Mr. Jones and Mr. Andrewew Lewys then bayliffs of the towne." But one Bailiff, Mr. William Jones, flatly refused his consent, while the other, Mr. Andrew Lewys, only assented in a doubtful manner.<sup>1</sup> It was subsequently asserted that the Bailiffs, within twenty days after receiving notice of the vacancy, reported it to the master and seniors of St. John's College, in order that they might make a fresh appointment. But it is very doubtful whether this assertion was true. No traces of any correspondence on the subject appear either in the college archives or among the town records, and Meighen expressly states in the school register that on January 20th, 1607, the Bailiffs had taken "no course for supplying of the school." The almost total absence of dates in the only accounts we have of the controversy about the second-mastership makes it a matter of great difficulty to trace its progress. Meighen says that "some troble" was caused by the disagreement between him and the Bailiffs, and that "the course of the school was for a while interrupted, so that it became very emptie of scholars in comparison of former times." It was usual for school work to recommence after the Christmas holidays on January 6th. But the Bailiffs continued firm in their refusal to allow Ralph Gittins to be promoted, and, after waiting for a fortnight in the hope that they might be persuaded to take some fair and reasonable course, the Head Master, after consultation with his colleagues, resolved to make the promotions customary at this season, and to go on with the school work as usual. Ralph Gittins took charge of the second school; Ralph Jones, who had been for some years the accident master, taught in the third school; and Mr. Hugh Spurstow undertook the Accident School. This new arrangement commenced on January 20th. Gittins

<sup>1</sup> See the school register under the year 1607-1608.



seems at the same time to have moved into the second master's lodgings, Ralph Jones succeeding to those which he vacated. But the Bailiffs would not allow the masters to settle matters in their own way without a struggle, and proceeded to attempt to remove Gittins and Jones from their lodgings by force. Party spirit, however, ran high in Shrewsbury, and many of the citizens sided with the schoolmasters. The school-house is said to have been occupied for four days and three nights by many women of Shrewsbury, who effectually resisted all attempts on the part of the Bailiffs to force an entry.<sup>1</sup> There is no record of the date of these disturbances. But they must have effectually put an end to all school work for some time, and, as no admittances are to be found in the school register between February 24th and April 4th, we may safely assume that the Bailiffs' attack on the school-house took place in the early part of March. But, though foiled at the time, the Bailiffs gained their end subsequently by getting Gittins summoned before the High Commission Court as "a dangerous suspected papist." He was in particular charged with having "harboured in his chamber one Leach at such time as he preached many points of popery" in Shrewsbury, and also with having "countenanced and received other persons ill affected to religion." Overton, who was then Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, appears to have been very zealous in repressing all Romanish tendencies in his diocese,<sup>2</sup> and made no difficulty in granting a licence to the Bailiffs under his hand and seal to take these proceedings against Gittins.<sup>3</sup>

The fact that Humphrey Leach had been recently suspended from his office of chaplain at Christ Church, Oxford,

<sup>1</sup> Alderman William Jones, the Bailiff who refused his assent to Ralph Gittins's promotion, was a man of considerable influence in the town. He had already filled the office of Bailiff on four previous occasions, and had shown, when in office in 1587, in conjunction with Mr. George Higgons, a disposition to set the school ordinances at defiance.

<sup>2</sup> There are several letters from him to Lord Burghley on the subject in the *Lansdowne MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> Bishop Overton was now, however, at an advanced age, and may have given the licence without much inquiry. He died in the following year. The fact that he granted the licence in question is mentioned in the school account-book.

by the pro-Vice-Chancellor, and that the sentence had been confirmed on appeal by Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, must inevitably have affected the Archbishop's mind unfavourably towards Ralph Gittins when his case came before the High Commission Court. At any rate, he pronounced Gittins to be "unworthy of the second place in respect of his wavering and unsteadiness in religion," and subsequently imprisoned him in the Gate House at Westminster, until he should find sureties that he would not go "beyond the seas."<sup>1</sup> The Archbishop also suspended Gittins from all teaching. But the question as to the third master's rights of succession to the higher room remained undecided. Mr. Andrew Harding,<sup>2</sup> who had been at Shrewsbury School, and had recently taken his degree at Oxford, was appointed by Meighen to take temporary charge of the second school, with the assent of the Bailiffs and the approbation of the Archbishop, and apparently a private arrangement was made between the Head Master and Mr. Harding that the latter should pay to Ralph Gittins £20 out of the full annual stipend of £30 which was attached to the second-mastership. This arrangement formed subsequently the matter of a serious accusation against Meighen. But it must be remembered that Gittins's claims to the second-mastership had never been set aside by any competent authority, and that his original position as third master was unchallenged, although he was for the present suspended from teaching by the Archbishop's sentence. His case, therefore, was clearly governed by the school ordinances, which provided that, when for one cause or another a master was unable to perform his duties, a temporary substitute should be appointed, who was to receive half the master's wages.

<sup>1</sup> Humphrey Leach, it must be remembered, had "fled beyond the seas" when his appeal was dismissed by the Archbishop. (See WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Andrew Harding* was admitted at Shrewsbury School on June 1st, 1597; matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1603, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged fifteen; B.A. of Hart Hall, January, 1608; Incumbent of St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, 1635 to 1643, and may have been appointed to the cure earlier. His name first occurs in the parish register as minister on April 26th, 1635. He died in March, 1643.

Certainly Meighen was indiscreet in insisting that Gittins should retain two-thirds of his stipend instead of the statutable half; and the young Oxford graduate does not seem to have been satisfied with the position, for he soon resigned his post. He was succeeded by Mr. Moston.<sup>1</sup> This gentleman was appointed by the Town Bailiffs, and it is evident that they must have made him some kind of promise that he should receive a permanent appointment to the second-mastership; for, on June 18th, 1609, he made a formal application to the Bailiffs of that year that they should either admit him to that office or pay him a sum of £30 in compensation. Richard Higgons and John Nicholls were in office at the time. There is no record of the answer that they made to this demand. But the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry wrote to the Bailiffs in Mr. Moston's favour,<sup>2</sup> and Archbishop Bancroft appears to have issued an order that he should receive some regular stipend.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Moston continued to act as Gittins's substitute till May, 1612.

In spite of all these troubles and disturbances there does not seem to have been any permanent falling off in the number of scholars. The names of ninety-three boys appear in the register as having been admitted between November, 1607, and November, 1608; and, though the number of admittances fell in the year 1608-1609 to seventy-five, it exceeded ninety in each of the four following years.

Mention has been made of the refusal of Mr. John Garbet and Mr. Robert Betton, the Bailiffs of 1609-1610, to take the oath appointed for them by the school ordinances, at the time when they were admitted to office, and again when called upon to do so by the Head Master at the annual audit on November 16th, 1609. The result of their refusal

<sup>1</sup> One Simon Moston graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1604, and he was no doubt the temporary master whose Christian name, Hotchkis tells us, was Simon.

<sup>2</sup> *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> It is noted in the school account-book that £10 was taken out of the school chest on January 27th, 161½, towards the discharge of an "order made by the late Archbishop of Canterbury, deceased, on the behalf of Mr. Moston, which was done in the bayliwicke of Mr. William Jones and Mr. Andrew Lewis."



was that no audit was taken of the School Bailiff's accounts, and no money was paid into the school-chest, which appears to have remained unopened during the whole of the Bailiffs' year of office. Their successors, Mr. Thomas Jones and Mr. Hughe Harris, adopted a more conciliatory course, and took the customary oath when they were admitted to office on October 5th, 1610. Some little time afterwards they appear to have proposed to the Head Master that he should join them in a formal application to the master and seniors of St. John's College to elect a new third master.<sup>1</sup> Holding as he did that Ralph Gittins had an absolute claim to the second-mastership, Meighen could not reasonably refuse his assent, and he seems to have offered to go up to Cambridge with the message at his own expense. His motives in making this proposal are not difficult to see. An interview with the college authorities would enable him to explain fully to them the nature of the differences between him and the Corporation of Shrewsbury, and would also give him an opportunity of advocating Mr. Ralph Jones's claims to promotion. But the Bailiffs had special objects to attain, and insisted on sending their own messenger, Mr. Rowland Jenks. When Mr. Jenks went to Cambridge is not stated, but he does not seem to have gone, at any rate, until after the November audit.<sup>2</sup> His journey was fruitless, for the Bailiffs had instructed him to urge the college authorities not only to elect a third master, but to appoint a new second master as well, a step they were most unlikely to take; and his expenses amounted to £10. The Bailiffs appear to have asked Meighen several times for his key, in order that they

<sup>1</sup> This proposal by the Bailiffs would naturally be regarded by Meighen as practically an acknowledgment on their part that Gittins had been duly appointed second master, for there was no pretence that he had been deprived of the third-mastership.

<sup>2</sup> Assuming, which is by no means certain, that the Bailiffs made their proposal to Meighen soon after they were sworn in on October 5th, their negotiations on the subject of the application to St. John's College must have occupied some time. It is evident also from Meighen's account of the audit on November 16th, given in the school register, that he and the Bailiffs were still at that time on amicable terms, and this could hardly have been the case had the Bailiffs, in spite of Meighen's protest, already sent Rowland Jenks to Cambridge.



might take from the school-chest the £10 which had been expended in sending their messenger to Cambridge. But Meighen refused to sanction in any way what he considered the needless expenditure of school funds, he himself having been willing to make the journey at his own cost.

So matters continued up to January 29th, 161 $\frac{9}{10}$ , on which day the Bailiffs proceeded to break open the lock in the school-chest, which could only be opened by the Head Master's key, and took out the £10 which they wanted for Mr. Jenks's expenses. Nor did their high-handed proceedings stop here. The school-chest remained open for the rest of the year, up to November 17th, 1611, and their successors have left it on record in the school account-book, that in the course of that year Mr. Jones and Mr. Harris took from the chest further sums amounting to £30, for which, up to November 16th, 1612, they had rendered no account.<sup>1</sup>

We have seen already that religious animosity lay at the root of the Gittins controversy. Puritanism had become in Shrewsbury, as well as in many other towns in England, a strong influence during the closing years of the 16th century. In October, 1574, a Commission sat in Shrewsbury, of which Sir Henry Sidney was president, to enforce the use of the surplice, and, about the same time, Mr. William Gerard, a leading member of the Council of the Marches and Justice of Assize in several Welsh counties, animadverted severely in a charge which he delivered in Shrewsbury on puritan presumption.<sup>2</sup> Another similar Commission was at work in Shrewsbury in 1584, and the Bishop's Ordinary was sent to the town in 1589 in consequence of the continued resistance of some of the clergy to ecclesiastical authority, especially in the matter of the use of the surplice.<sup>3</sup> In 1581 we hear of a stone cross, which stood in St. Mary's churchyard, being pulled down during the night.<sup>4</sup> On May 12th, 1584, the Corporation of Shrewsbury took upon itself to make an order

<sup>1</sup> Under the ordinances no sum in excess of £10 could legally be taken out of the school-chest without the consent of St. John's College.

<sup>2</sup> See the *Taylor MS.* and Thomas Browne's Letters to Queen Elizabeth in the *Lansdowne MSS.*, cx. 17.

<sup>3</sup> OWEN and BLAKEWAY's *History of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>4</sup> *Taylor MS.*

that some stained glass in the north window of St. Mary's Church, containing "superstitious images and inscriptions," should be taken down; and on September 18th in the same year another order was voted that the stone altar in the same church should be removed.<sup>1</sup> But the churchwardens of St. Mary's did not feel inclined to destroy their windows, and complaints were made against them on this account on May 6th, 1585.<sup>1</sup> Two years later, in May, 1587, the stone font in St. Chad's Church was destroyed and one of wood was substituted. The new font, moreover, was placed in the choir instead of in the old position at the entrance of the church. But it is evident that strong opponents of these innovations were to be found in the parish of St. Chad as well as in that of St. Mary, for we read that by January 20th, 1588, another stone font had been procured and put in the customary place.<sup>2</sup> Another sign of the times is noted by the Shrewsbury chronicler, who records that Mr. Thomas Edwards, one of the Bailiffs for 1599-1600, refused to wear scarlet or keep the accustomed feasting at Christmas.<sup>3</sup> Ten years before this, some time during the year 1589, an angry controversy arose in Shrewsbury about the setting up of "green trees" and "may poles," and lighting bonfires in front of the Shermen's Hall and other buildings.

Mr. Tomkys, the curate of St. Mary's parish, who also held the office of Public Preacher, if he did not originate the strife about these harmless practices, at any rate fulminated against them in his sermons. The dispute was renewed in subsequent years, and on June 6th, 1591, the festival of the Shermen, which happened to fall that year on a Sunday,

<sup>1</sup> See PHILLIPS'S *History of Shrewsbury*. It is incidentally mentioned that the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was one of the subjects represented in the window at St. Mary's.

<sup>2</sup> OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>3</sup> A Corporation order had been issued in 1587 that the Bailiffs and their wives should wear scarlet on the accustomed days. There is an altar tomb in St. Chad's Church at Shrewsbury, which formerly stood in St. Alkmund's Church, dedicated to the memory of Alderman William Jones, Bailiff in 1580, 1587, 1595, 1600, and 1607, and Eleanor, his wife, with recumbent effigies of both. Mrs. Jones has a scarlet dress. Alderman Jones died July 16th, 1612, and his wife February 26th, 1623. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; PHILLIPS'S *Hist. of Shrewsbury*.)

a serious uproar took place in connection with a "green tree" which was, as usual, set up in front of their hall. Richard Fearnese and other members of the company were indicted in August of the same year for erecting the tree; but Serjeant Owen, the Recorder, decided in their favour. The Bailiffs of the year, Mr. Thomas Sherer and Mr. Thomas Burnell, appear to have acted in a very high-handed fashion in the matter, imprisoning the accused Shermen, and suppressing a letter in which the Recorder had ordered their release. They also expended certain sums of money in journeying to Warwick about the business, and in procuring books to be written in defence of their action against the Shermen, which were subsequently disallowed by the auditors. As a further illustration of the puritan aversion to sports and merry-making a Corporation order may be mentioned, which was issued on October 8th, 1594, forbidding interludes and plays on Sundays, and prohibiting altogether football, *hiltes* or *wastrels*,<sup>1</sup> and bear-baiting within the town walls.<sup>2</sup> With all this susceptibility about religious symbols and time-honoured merry-making, it could not be expected that the doctrinal views of those parochial clergymen who were not of the puritan faction would escape censure. Humphrey Leach, Vicar of St. Alkmund's, was the most prominent among them. It was alleged a few years later that during the nine years of his cure, which lasted from 1598 to 1607, he used to preach "many points of popery" in the town.<sup>3</sup> But no trace has been found of any charges being made against him before his ecclesiastical superiors, although a suit which was commenced against him in the Bailiff's Court in 1603 by William Bright, presumably the Public Preacher, may have been connected with matters of religious controversy.<sup>4</sup> Between 1602 and

<sup>1</sup> *Hiltes* and *wastrels* were both a species of cudgel.

<sup>2</sup> A full account of the Shermen controversy is given by OWEN and BLAKESLEY.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> Cognizance of this suit was claimed by Lord Buckhurst, Chancellor of the University of Oxford, in a letter to the Bailiffs, dated July 1st, 1603. The Chancellor describes Leach as "the honest and literate person, Humphrey Leach, M.A., of Jesus College."



1608 Leach appears to have been Chaplain of Christ Church, Oxford, as well as Vicar of St. Alkmond's, and men were to be found at Oxford as well as in Shrewsbury who disapproved of his teaching. A sermon preached in the cathedral in 1607 is said to have given great offence; and for a second sermon on the same subject, preached on January 27th, 1608, Leach was suspended by the pro-Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Leonard Hutton, for three months. That Leach did not admit the justice of the censures passed on his sermons is evident, for he appealed to the Archbishop of Canterbury. But when Bancroft also decided against him Leach gave up all hope of being fairly treated in England, and took refuge at Artois, in France, where he remained for a time, and then entered the English college at Rome.<sup>1</sup> Whatever presumption, however, may be derived from Leach's after career of the justice of the charges made against him by his opponents of popish leanings, the hospitality which Gittins had shown to an old school-fellow and brother clergyman was no evidence that he was in agreement with Leach in all his religious views. And in estimating the importance of Bancroft's judgment against Ralph Gittins in the High Commission Court we must bear in mind that England was still under the influence of the panic caused by the Gunpowder Plot; that the Archbishop had recently disallowed Leach's appeal from the sentence of suspension passed upon him by Dr. Leonard

<sup>1</sup> *Humphrey Leach* was a native of Drayton-in-Hales, Shropshire, and was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1579. On November 13th, 1590, he matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged nineteen. But, for some reason or other, he migrated to Cambridge, and took his B.A. and M.A. degrees there. In 1602 he was incorporated M.A. at Oxford, and soon after was made Chaplain of Christ Church. Four years previously he had been presented by Lord Keeper Egerton, on the recommendation of Sir Thomas Egerton, his son, and the inhabitants of Drayton, where he had probably been curate, to the vicarage of St. Alkmond, Shrewsbury. Leach had ceased to be Vicar of St. Alkmond before his suspension at Oxford, the date of his successor's appointment being June 1st, 1607. He was re-ordained in the Roman Church in 1612, and is said to have become a member of "The Society of lame Ignatius." Leach returned to England in 1618, and died in July, 1629, at the house of a Roman Catholic gentleman named Massie, in Cheshire. While living abroad he published *The Triumph of Truth* in vindication of his position. (See *WOOD'S Athen. Oxon.*; *Records of the Society of Jesus*; OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *Shrewsbury*; and the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



Hutton; that the friendship of the two men was the basis of the charge of popish tendencies made against Gittins; and that the imprisonment of the latter in the Gate House at Westminster, until he should find securities that he would not leave the kingdom, is amply accounted for by the fact that Leach, on the rejection of his appeal, had at once "fled beyond the seas."

The £30 which was taken out of the school-chest by Messrs. Jones and Harris during their year of office was, in the main, expended by them in a suit which they commenced in the Court of the Council of the Marches of Wales<sup>1</sup> against the schoolmasters and George Phillips,<sup>2</sup> the School Bailiff, for receiving and employing the rent and revenues of the school; against Richard Higgons,<sup>3</sup> for aiding them to obtain the said rent and revenues; against Gittins and Jones for unlawfully intruding into the rooms and lodgings of the second and third masters; and against all the defendants, apparently, for putting the school revenues to an improper use. It will be remembered that, in consequence of the Town Bailiffs for 1609-10 refusing to take the appointed "oath for the school," it was impossible to have an audit of the School Bailiff's accounts on November 17th, 1609, or for him to pay into the school-chest, which was not even opened, the rents and tithes which he had collected. During the following year this money, and any further sums which the School Bailiff may have subsequently received, formed the only source available for the payment of the schoolmasters' stipends and other necessary expenses. To such payments Richard Higgons, who had been one of the Town Bailiffs in the previous year, would seem to have given his sanction, and it is difficult to see what other course could have been adopted by any of the defendants.<sup>4</sup> The suit in question does not appear to have

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book under the year 1611-12.

<sup>2</sup> George Phillips had succeeded John Coyde as School Bailiff in 1598.

<sup>3</sup> Richard Higgons was one of the Town Bailiffs for 1608-09.

<sup>4</sup> The refusal of the two Bailiffs for 1609-10 to take the statutable oath had deprived them of all claim to take a part in the administration of school affairs, and, with the authority of the existing Bailiffs in abeyance, the Bailiffs of the previous year would be the natural persons to consult under the difficult circumstances in which Meighen and his colleagues found themselves placed.

been proceeded with. It is evident that Messrs. Jones and Harris had no case. In the meantime, whether on his own motion or on the entreaty of the schoolmasters does not appear, Dr. Neile, the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry and Visitor of the school, came to Shrewsbury sometime during the season of Lent in 1611, and spent four hours in hearing all the accusations that were laid against Ralph Gittins. The conclusion to which he came, after careful examination, was that "no one of them was proved," but that "all appeared to be either surmises or malicious aspersions without good ground."<sup>1</sup> The Bishop probably had in his mind when he used these expressions one of the school ordinances, in which it was expressly provided that none of the schoolmasters were to be displaced "upon lighte *surmyse* or *malicious* quarrellings."

Some months after the Bishop's letter was written, on January 20th, 161 $\frac{2}{3}$ , Messrs. Rowland Langley, and Rowland Jenks, the Bailiffs for the year, record in the school account-book a grant of £10 made to Meighen "towards his expenses in the suit about the second room." It seems certain that this *suit* must have been a petition to the King's Council, founded on Bishop Neile's Report;<sup>2</sup> for on November 4th, 1611, a few months after the Bishop had conducted his inquiry in Shrewsbury, a royal letter was sent to the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, directing them to settle the question of the teachers of the school in accordance with its institutions and customs, and to place Gittins in the second room, unless there were very sufficient proof<sup>3</sup> of his unworthiness, and in case of difficulty to refer the matter to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.<sup>4</sup> The Bailiffs, Mr. Thomas Wolley and Mr.

<sup>1</sup> See the Bishop's letter to the Master of St. John's College, dated May 28th, 1612, in the *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 482.

<sup>2</sup> Meighen would not be likely to forward his petition until he was assured of the Bishop's support, and its date may therefore be placed with some confidence between March and November in 1611.

<sup>3</sup> The ordinances gave Gittins an absolute claim to promotion if the Head Master and Bailiffs thought him worthy of the place, and the Courts of to-day would require, as the King's Council then required, "sufficient proof of his unworthiness" to justify the Trustees in refusing his promotion, especially when they were divided in opinion.

<sup>4</sup> See *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic*.

John Hawkshead, were new to office, and wisely determined to be guided by the Bishop in the settlement of the business. First of all, care was taken to give due compensation to Mr. Simon Moston, who had been doing the second master's work for the last four years, and who, thereupon, made full "renunciation of all claim and pretence of interest" in the mastership under his hand and seal. The Bishop had already, more than a year before, fully assured himself of the baselessness of the charges made against Gittins, and he now proceeded to examine him carefully as to "his sufficiency for the place." The result was that the Bishop was "very fully satisfied" with him in respect of religion, of learning and of manners.

Gittins took the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, subscribed the Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Canons, and (to use the Bishop's words) "performed all other religious duties which, as his ordinary, he could require of any man to be in his place."<sup>1</sup> On such assurances as these it was impossible for the Bailiffs to refuse their assent to Gittins' promotion, and he was established in the place of second master "under their hand and seal."

Bishop Neile wrote to inform Dr. Clayton, Master of St. John's College, of what had been done, apparently with the expectation that the college authorities would give their formal assent to the promotion. But the master and seniors very properly replied that, although they had power under the school ordinances to elect schoolmasters, they had none to confirm an appointment by *promotion*.<sup>2</sup> The formal "placing" of Mr. Gittins "in the second room" by the Bailiffs was postponed till October 1st, 1612, when, with the customary festivities and speechmaking, he and Mr. Ralph Jones and Mr. Spurstow were duly "placed" in their respective rooms.<sup>3</sup> The proceedings that day must have given almost as much pleasure to the Bailiffs as to the

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 483.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 473. The master expressed his personal approbation.

<sup>3</sup> See school register under date October 1st, 1612. This was the last day of the Bailiffs' year of office.



schoolmasters and the boys, who got a holiday. School affairs had been a cause of much labour and much anxiety to Messrs. Wolley and Hawkshead during their year of office. Not only had there been the troublesome Gittins business, but "the prosperity of the school had been threatened by some enemies with whom they had had long suits."<sup>1</sup> It appears from the school account-book that these suits were connected with the payment of the Chirbury tithes and the removal of the Vicar.<sup>2</sup> We learn from a letter written by the Bailiffs to St. John's College on May 19th, 1612, that they succeeded in gaining their cause in both cases. Certainly Shrewsbury School owes a debt of gratitude to Thomas Wolley and John Hawkshead; but even towards them—a strong proof of the distrust which the conduct of former Bailiffs had inspired in the minds of the Cambridge Dons—the letters of the master and seniors of St. John's College display an acrimonious tone.<sup>3</sup> It would have been well for Gittins, well for Shrewsbury School, and well for Meighen himself, if the latter had remained content with the fruits of his victory, after his four years' struggle with Alderman William Jones and his friends. But he could not forego the prospect of punishing both Mr. Thomas Jones and Mr. Hughe Harris for their dishonest

<sup>1</sup> See *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 471.

<sup>2</sup> Ten pounds were taken from the school-chest on four separate occasions—March 13th, 1612; March 28th, 1612; May 8th, 1612, and August 14th, 1612—"for the prosecution and defending of sundry suits in law, at the Assizes, at the Arches, and at Hereford, concerning the right to the tithes at Chirbury, and for removing the Vicar there." The Vicar was the Rev. Lawrence Jones, who appears to have been admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1582, as a native of Shropshire, under the name of Lawrence ap Jhon. His first payment as Vicar of Chirbury occurs in 1606-07. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Davies.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. Wolley and Hawkshead seem to have done their best to be conciliatory in the hope of putting an end to the dissensions about the school. Alderman Jones had commenced an action before the Court of the Marches, apparently with the object of recovering from the school some of the expenses he had incurred in the proceedings he took against Gittins in 1607-08, and we find them, on January 27th, 1612, drawing £10 from the school-chest, prepared either to give it to Mr. Jones in full discharge of all his demands, or to use it in resisting his action. They also paid £10 for the travelling expenses of the messenger whom Jones sent in 1607-08 to take proceedings against Gittins in the High Commission Court.



use of the school funds, of which they were trustees in the year 1610-1611, for their various breaches of the school ordinances, and for the false charges they had made against him and his colleagues.

Accordingly, some time in Trinity Term 1612, he filed a bill in Chancery against Thomas Jones and Hughe Harris for breaking open the fourth lock of the school-chest and keeping it open from January 29th, 161<sup>0</sup><sub>2</sub>, till November 17th, 1611, and taking out therefrom, in "addition to divers deeds, evidences, and accounts," certain sums of money, part of which they had expended in prosecuting a suit against him and the other masters. On February 4th, 161<sup>2</sup><sub>3</sub>, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Ellesmere,<sup>1</sup> seeing that Meighen's bill and the answer made to it by the defendants involved questions about the due observance of the school ordinances, issued a commission to Sir Edward Bromley, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, Sir Richard Lewkenor, Chief Justice of Chester, and Richard Barker, Esq., Recorder of Shrewsbury, or to two of them, of whom Richard Barker was to be one, to inquire into the matters stated in the bill and answer, to examine witnesses, and to end the case if they could. Should they fail to do this the Commissioners were directed to make a report to the Court. The first meeting of the Commissioners was held on April 8th, 1613. They spent two days in examining witnesses and hearing counsel; and, after failing to end the matter to "the liking" of both parties, they made their report to the Lord Chancellor on April 10th. The Commissioners do not seem to have devoted much time, either to the consideration of the nature of the evidence, or to the composition of the report, in which they gave the conclusions to which they had come. It is certainly a remarkable document. Its bias is so strong, its injustice is so palpable, that it is difficult to understand how the Lord Chancellor came to act upon it. There seems

<sup>1</sup> The Lord Keeper, Sir Thomas Egerton, had been made Baron Ellesmere on July 19th, and Lord Chancellor on July 24th, in the year 1603. A copy of his decree in the action *Meighen v. Jones and Harris*, which was ultimately issued on June 28th, 1613, will be found in the Appendix.

no doubt that it is in the main to all intents and purposes the defendants' brief. The Commissioners begin by stating that they found the estate of the school very much "*decayed by the froward and ill carriage*" of the Head Master, whom they describe as "a very contentious person, and of a turbulent and mutinous spirit and disposition," and they make two specific charges against him to justify the strong censure which they pass upon his conduct. One charge is that, although the Archbishop of Canterbury had "censured" Gittins in Meighen's presence as "unworthy of the second place in respect of his wavering and unsteadiness in religion," Meighen had, "without the consent of the Bailiffs, and contrary to the ordinances," placed Gittins in the second room, and caused the second master's stipend to be paid to him. The other charge is that, when Andrew Harding was appointed to do the second master's work, after Gittins was suspended by the Archbishop, Meighen arranged with him that he should return £20 out of the second master's full stipend of £30, that it might be "paid to the said Gittins, or otherwise disposed of at Meighen's pleasure."

With respect to the first charge, the most important thing to notice is that the arrangement made by the masters for carrying on the work of the school, when Alderman Jones had brought matters to a deadlock by refusing to consent to Gittins's promotion, took place on January 20th, 1607, long before the Bailiffs made, or could have made, their charges against Gittins in the High Commission Court. The Commissioners blame Meighen for placing Gittins in the second room *after* a censure which did not take place *till long subsequently*, and for *causing* the second master's stipend to be paid to him, when it was impossible for Meighen *to gain access to the school-chest at all* without the assent of the Bailiffs. The second charge is not of a very serious nature. The fact that *the whole* of the second master's stipend was paid to Andrew Harding proves that the Bailiffs were dealing most unjustly with Gittins by withholding from him *the whole* of the income of his mastership

during his suspension;<sup>1</sup> and Meighen's arrangement with Harding was probably made in consequence of this. It must be confessed, however, that Meighen was indiscreet in making or sanctioning such an arrangement, for the ordinances provided that if a master should be rendered incapable of doing his work by age or sickness, his substitute should receive *half his wages*, and it is manifest that a master, suspended from office by competent authority, ought not to have been placed in a more favourable position than one incapacitated by such causes. But the sympathy which Meighen felt for his colleague, and his profound conviction of the injustice which had been dealt to him, may fairly be pleaded in excuse of this small indiscretion. Surely there was nothing in Meighen's conduct on either of these occasions, or in any of his previous transactions with the Bailiffs, to justify the terms in which the Commissioners speak of him. The events with which the Commissioners were invited to deal had happened five years previously, and, by unscrupulous misrepresentation and careful alteration of the order of their incidence, the defendants seem to have blinded the eyes of the Commissioners to what had really happened. As to the alleged decay of the school there is no occasion to say much, for a glance at the register of admissions shows that no such decay had taken place at all. The average number of annual admissions, which for the twenty-nine years of Meighen's mastership had been 96, had not fallen during the troubles of the last seven years below 89. Later on in their Report the Commissioners describe the Head Master as "faulty in many things, some of them not befitting the place of an honest man," and express their opinion that, if he did not hereafter "comport and carry himself more respectfully (*sic*) in the affairs of the school," he ought "to be removed, and some worthier and more sufficient person chosen to supply

<sup>1</sup> St. John's College had certainly not accepted the Bailiffs' contention that the second mastership was vacant, and could be filled up in the usual way; and, if not second master, Gittins was certainly entitled to be still considered as third master.



his room." If it were "contentious" on Meighen's part to resist the Bailiffs when they set the school ordinances at defiance, then he was, in this respect, correctly described by the Commissioners. But no one can examine the details of his various contests with the Bailiffs without coming to the conclusion that they all seem to have been due to a sincere desire on his part "to defend from violation the ordinances" and revenue of the school, and that in giving this account of his career Mr. Edward Howes only does him justice. Much of the remainder of the Commissioners' Report is devoted to Ralph Gittins. The indefinite charges of popish tendencies which had been made against him before the Archbishop, and which had since, after careful investigation, been pronounced by the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, who was not only his diocesan, but the Visitor of the school, to be "either surmises or malicious aspersions without good ground," are reproduced. Gittins is declared to have been "accounted for many years a dangerous, suspected papist," but the only evidence offered in support of these charges besides *suspicion* is that he "did not only harbour one Leach at such times as he preached many points of popery within the town, who has since gone beyond the seas, and there wrote books against the State of this Realm, but also countenanced and received other persons ill-affected to religion and dangerous to the estate." Great stress is laid on the facts that the Archbishop suspended Gittins from teaching, and imprisoned him in the Gate House at Westminster until he should find sureties that he would not, like his friend Humphrey Leach, "go beyond the seas." But from the beginning to the end of the Report there cannot be found the slightest allusion to the careful investigation which Bishop Neile had subsequently made into the whole business, or to his complete exoneration of Ralph Gittins.

The story of the riot at the school-house, too, which we must bear in mind had taken place five years before, is told in the language of men so confident or so bitter that they are careless not only of consistency, but of the smallest



semblance of fairness. The resistance made by the school-masters and their friends to the attempt made by the Bailiffs to expel them from their lodgings by force is described as *a mutinous outrage* and *great misdemeanour* on their part. In one place the Bailiffs are described as trying to force their way into the school-house, and in another as coming *to suppress the mutinous outrage* of which the masters were guilty *in resisting their attempt*. The resistance offered by many of the Shrewsbury citizens to the illegal action of the Bailiffs is attributed, first, to the fact that "many women of the town" had previously taken possession of the school-house and occupied it for four days and three nights, and subsequently to a speech made by Gittins, who is stated to have put his head out of a window in the school-house and cried out, "Come in, burgesses," telling them that "he stood for their rights." It is likewise asserted by the Commissioners that "one of the bailiffs, trying to get into the school through one of the masters' lodgings, had been likely to be spoiled or killed by the casting of a piece of timber," and that this piece of timber was thrown either by Gittins himself or else "by his appointment." How trained lawyers or men of judicial mind could have put their signatures to such a statement it is difficult to understand. One witness may have said that he saw Gittins throw the timber, and another that he heard Gittins tell someone else to throw it. Both witnesses could not be speaking the truth. Why should not both be lying? Anyway, the Bailiff in question—Mr. Alderman Jones, no doubt, that self-willed and dictatorial gentleman—was neither *killed* nor *spoiled* by the piece of timber; and the repetition of the story by the Commissioners shows an animus against Gittins, and a disposition to accept confused and even contradictory evidence on the side of his enemies, which renders their whole report untrustworthy.<sup>1</sup> One definite charge

<sup>1</sup> It is only by an inference that we can approximate to the date of the riot. It cannot have taken place till after January 20th, 1607, the day on which, "after some pause and expectation of good to be done by Mr. Bailiffs, when no course was taken by them for supplying of the school," the masters recommenced work. Admittances are regularly recorded in the register from that day until February 24th. Then comes a blank till April 4th. Doubtless the riot took place in March.

against Gittins to the effect that, before the death of Mr. John Baker, he had "carried himself negligently" in "the third room," is adopted by the Commissioners. But, in the absence of any evidence to justify the statement, Meighen's emphatic testimony to his "skill and diligence," given at the time of Mr. John Baker's death, is conclusive against the gossiping tales of hostile outsiders six years later.<sup>1</sup> Finally, the Commissioners report that they do not consider Gittins "a fit person to teach or supply any room in the school," and recommend that he should be removed from the second-mastership, and that some worthy man should be elected in his room. Of the charges against Jones and Harris, the Bailiffs of 1610-1611, which formed the subject matter of Meighen's Chancery suit, the Commissioners make short work. They justify the Bailiffs in breaking open the school-chest in order to take out £10 for the payment of Rowland Jenks's expenses to Cambridge and back, on the ground that Meighen had several times refused them the use of his key, completely ignoring his plea that the message to Cambridge about the election of a new third master need not have cost anything. But Meighen had made the much more serious charge that Jones and Harris had taken advantage of the school-chest lying "open to their disposition" during the rest of their year of office, after they had once forced his lock, to take therefrom not only "divers deeds, evidences, and accounts," but "divers sums of money," part of which they had expended in prosecuting a suit against him and the other masters. It is recorded in the school account-book by the Bailiffs who succeeded Messrs. Jones and Harris that the money which they had taken amounted to £30, and that they had rendered no account whatever of the way in which

<sup>1</sup> It is only fair to state that among the Corporation orders which have been preserved is one belonging to the year 1607-1608, which directs some unnamed master to be admonished for absence and neglect of duty, and that this order may have been issued during the few weeks which elapsed between the admission of the Bailiffs to office and the death of Mr. John Baker on November 27th. But it seems far more likely that it was issued after Mr. Gittins's promotion had been proposed with the view of damaging his claims. There is no proof, however, that this order applied to Gittins at all.

it had been expended.<sup>1</sup> Jones and Harris made no attempt to deny the fact that they had taken this money, and the illegality of their act was manifest, for it was expressly provided in the ordinances that no sum exceeding £10 should be taken out of the *stock remanent* without the consent of St. John's College.<sup>2</sup> But preposterous as were the allegations which they had made against the schoolmasters, the School Bailiff, and Mr. Richard Higgon, and abortive as the suit proved, the Commissioners held that Messrs. Jones and Harris had "just cause of suit and exception" against Meighen and the rest for "getting into their hands and custody great sums of money, parcel of revenues appointed for the maintenance of the school, and misemploying them contrary to the true intent and meaning of the ordinances," and ignored the illegality of the Bailiffs' conduct on the ground that the money was not taken by them for "private gain or lucre."<sup>2</sup> After various recommendations as to certain matters which have no direct bearing on the Chancery suit, Meighen *v.* Jones and Harris, the Commissioners proceed to recommend that "the reasonable expenses" of the defendants in the suit should be paid. The report is dated April 10th, and on June 28th, 1613, the Lord Chancellor issued his decree. It follows the lines of the Commissioners' recommendations very closely. Gittins was to vacate his place before Michaelmas, and a new master was to be appointed by the college. Sir Edward Bromley is directed to report on the question of the defendants' costs, and the Lord Chancellor indicates that moderation would be shown in this matter if Meighen should hereafter "conform himself to a better temper in observance of the ordinances." On September 4th, 1613, the Bailiffs<sup>3</sup> wrote to the master

<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs for the next year, 1612-1613, also notify the fact that Jones and Harris had still rendered no account for the £30 they had taken from the school-chest.

<sup>2</sup> The lawyers, consulted by the school authorities on March 20th, 1591, gave it as their opinion that the consent of the college was not necessary for certain expenses mentioned in the eighth ordinance. Now these expenses certainly included *law expenses*; but the words of the ordinance could not possibly apply to such law expenses as those incurred by Jones and Harris in bringing their action against the masters.

<sup>3</sup> The Bailiffs for 1612-13 were Mr. Rowland Langley and Mr. Rowland Jenks.



and seniors of St. John's College to inform them of the nature of the decree in Chancery, and to ask them to elect a master in the room of Gittins, recommending for the post Andrew Studley,<sup>1</sup> M.A., an Oxford man, who had been doing Meighen's work during some temporary absence of his, and had the necessary qualification. A verbal reply was sent by the messenger of the Bailiffs, Mr. John Garbet,<sup>2</sup> that the matter would be considered by the college when the master-ship should become actually vacant.

On October 8th the Bailiffs were able to signify that this was the case, and on October 19th the college authorities wrote to the effect that although they were limited by the ordinances in their choice, the masters whom they elected ought to be those "of whose conversation they had knowledge," and they pointed out the impossibility of this being the case if the youth of Shrewsbury were sent elsewhere than to St. John's. Having made this protest, however, they went on to say that they had elected Studley.<sup>3</sup> The question of costs in the Chancery suit was left in abeyance for three years in accordance with the Chancellor's intimation that their amount would depend in great measure on Meighen's future behaviour.

But on Thursday, October 24th, 1616, a second decree was issued, from which it appears that the total amount of the defendants' costs in the suit amounted to £127 17s. 4d., and that Baron Bromley had recommended the payment of £100 out of the school-chest towards these costs. The Chancellor, however, "wishing to favour the school," limited the amount to be paid to £80. This sum accordingly appears in the school accounts for 1616-1617 as having been paid to Messrs. Jones and Harris in pursuance of the Lord Chancellor's

<sup>1</sup> *Andrew Studley* was a son of Mr. Peter Studley, of Shrewsbury. He was promoted from the Accidence School on December 16th, 1595, and was eighteen years old when he matriculated at Hart Hall, Oxford, in 1604; B.A., 1609; M.A., 1611.

<sup>2</sup> It is a somewhat curious coincidence that Mr. John Garbet, who was one of the two Bailiffs who originated all the trouble by refusing to take the appointed oath in 1609, should have been the messenger on this occasion.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 476.



decree.<sup>1</sup> But in the same accounts there is entered another payment of £127 16s. 7d. "pro aliis expens: necessariis ut particular: ostent: Ballivis patet," which has a most suspicious appearance. The costs of Jones and Harris, as reported by Baron Bromley, amounted to £127 17s. 4d.; and the two amounts resemble each other so closely that it is hardly possible to doubt that the Bailiffs for 1616-1617 handed over to Jones and Harris out of the school-chest the total amount of their costs in the Chancery suit, as well as the £80 which the Lord Chancellor had directed should be paid them towards those costs.<sup>2</sup>

In the year 1618-1619, when Mr. Arthur Kinaston and Mr. John Garbet were Bailiffs, another very suspicious payment was made, of which they make no mention themselves, but which is recorded by their successors<sup>3</sup> with evident disapprobation. They state that more money was taken out of the school-chest and "paid to Mr. Hughe Harris to defend a suit against him and others commenced by Mr. Ralph Gittins, late schoolmaster of the second school, in the Chancery concerning the displacement, which was taken out and paid by Mr. Bailiffs only last year." The money in question amounted to £24 18s. 10d.<sup>4</sup>

It must be borne in mind also that payments of two separate sums of £10 are recorded to have been made in 1613-14 and 1614-15 to Mr. T. Moston for fees, charges, and expenses in connection with the suit about the second schoolmaster's room.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The payment is entered as follows: "Solut: insuper Th: Jones et Hugoni Harries gen: extra arcam Sch: prædict: virtute ordinis Dom: Canc: Angl:." etc.

<sup>2</sup> The amount originally entered was £126 3s. 4d., but these figures were subsequently scratched out and £127 16s. 7d. was substituted.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. George Wright and Mr. Richard Gibbons.

<sup>4</sup> It is possible that Ralph Gittins may have commenced a new suit in Chancery against Jones and Harris after his displacement in 1613. But if he took proceedings against them at all it would probably have been for perjury, and such proceedings would hardly have been taken in Chancery, and it seems far more likely that the entry in question refers to the old Chancery suit of 1613.

<sup>5</sup> It would appear that from first to last £252 14s. 11d. was taken out of the school-chest and paid to Jones and Harris, instead of the £80 allowed by the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. John Meighen must have been sorely frightened by the unexpected results of his Chancery suit to submit tamely to what seems to have been a disgraceful fraud upon the school. Except on the occasion of the audit of November 16th, 1624, to which reference has already been made, when business proceedings had to be postponed on account of the "scruples" of the newly-appointed Bailiffs about "taking the oath," no further differences between Meighen and the Corporation of Shrewsbury are recorded, though the absence of his signature to various memoranda and items of expenditure to be found in the school accounts indicates occasional disapproval on his part of the action of the Bailiffs. As a rule his relations with the Bailiffs of the year seem to have been amicable enough. He frequently acted as their "messenger" to Cambridge on school business, and generally supported the Bailiffs' view of matters in their somewhat frequent differences with St. John's College. We find, indeed, the college authorities complaining rather bitterly on August 3rd, 1623,<sup>1</sup> that Meighen "favours the town rather than the college."

Probably the appointment by the Chancery decree of 1631 of a fixed Court of Reference<sup>2</sup> for the interpretation of the school ordinances did something to promote a better understanding between the Head Master and the Corporation of Shrewsbury. The gradual diminution of bitterness of feeling on religious matters, and the weakening of puritan influence in the town, may also have had some effect in the same direction. A striking proof of this amelioration, as well as of the malicious untruthfulness of the charges formerly made against Gittins, may be found in the fact that in 1631 he was restored to his old room as second master by the Governing Body of St. John's College, on the strong recommendation of the Bailiffs, supported by the express commendation of "the doctors and clergymen" of Shrewsbury, and with the full approbation of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry,<sup>3</sup> who testified to Gittins's "conformity in

*Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 489.

<sup>2</sup> The Judges of Assize and the Recorder of Shrewsbury.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Morton was now the Bishop of the Diocese. He had succeeded Overall in 1618.

religion and ability in teaching a school.”<sup>1</sup> Various changes had taken place in the magisterial staff since the deprivation of Gittins in 1613. Andrew Studley and Ralph Jones do not seem to have been efficient masters.

On October 9th, 1626, Bishop Morton, writing to the Bailiffs, speaks of Shrewsbury School as having been “some-time famous and of great request,” but “now obscure and unworthie in the reputation of all men,” and ascribes its decay “to the defalt and negligence of the inferior school-masters.” He directs the Bailiffs to send him five “of the choicest of these scholars who are to be removed unto the highest schoolmaster,” that he may be able to judge as to the “sufficiencie and insufficiencie of the undermasters.”<sup>2</sup> Probably the Bishop’s judgment was unfavourable, as Studley<sup>3</sup> and Jones both resigned in the following year.

On May 31st, 1627, we find the Bailiffs writing to St. John’s College to ask that “special care” may be taken in choosing new masters, as the school was now “to the general grief of the town in very great decay.” In a later letter from the Bailiffs, written on October 27th, 1627, the actual avoidance is notified, and they add that “many boys are now sent to distant schools,” and that Meighen was *alone left<sup>4</sup> in the highest school*. The letter written in reply by the master and seniors is interesting. They express their grief “at the

<sup>1</sup> Reference is made to the Bishop’s testimony in the college letter of April 21st, 1631. (*Hist. of St. John’s College*, vol. i. p. 500.) The date of the Bailiffs’ letter of recommendation is March 24th, 1632.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.* Studley and Jones were both admonished by the Bailiffs in 1626 to use more diligence in teaching the scholars than heretofore.

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Studley seems to have been in failing health. He died July 17th, 1628, and is buried in St. Alkmund’s Church, where there is, or was, a monument to his memory. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY’S *Shrewsbury*.)

<sup>4</sup> Allusion is made in the Bailiffs’ letter to Meighen’s age, and by the expression “alone left in the highest school” they may have meant that Meighen wanted help in his *school*, and had none. But it is possible that their words imply that boys did not now remain long enough at Shrewsbury to be promoted to the highest school, and that consequently Meighen had no boys to teach. So far as the register of admissions may be taken as a test of success the school would appear to have been in a prosperous condition between 1613 and 1619. But the numbers diminished after the latter year, and in 1626 fewer boys were admitted than in any years since Meighen had become Head Master, except 1585, 1603, and 1604.



present weakness and decaye of the school," but disclaim with justice any responsibility for it, their former elections having been "made of such only as were recommended by" the Bailiffs. But now, they add, as "the remedy for the disease" was left to them to find, they were determined to show no favour to their own men, and had, after diligent inquiry through the university, "made choice of the most eminent and best deserving that could be persuaded to accept of such preferment." James Brooke, M.A.,<sup>1</sup> fellow of Gonville and Caius College, and David Evans, B.A., of Jesus College, were the gentlemen whom they had selected. Of the former they say that his abilities were well known unto them "by divers public exercises performed by him" in the university "with credit," and that "his carriage had been commended" to them by those who had "daily experience thereof." David Evans they describe as "well commended" to them, and "approved" by them "both for ability of learning and conversacōn of life."<sup>2</sup> Bishop Morton subsequently "examined and approved" the two new masters in "poynt of literature," and expressed his hopes in a letter to the Bailiffs that by their means the former beauty of the school might be revived.<sup>3</sup> The infusion of new blood had its effect; and the number of admissions during the next year rose to 137, a higher level than had been attained since 1593. But Meighen was now far too old for his work;<sup>4</sup> and Brooke's resignation in March, 163<sup>9</sup>/<sub>1</sub>, was probably due to a feeling that his labours were in great measure wasted.<sup>5</sup> He had

<sup>1</sup> *James Brooke* was appointed second master on November 19th, 1627. He was a son of Mr. William Brooke, of Norwich, merchant, and had been educated in the Grammar School of that city for about four years under Mr. Stonham. He was admitted Scholar of Gonville and Caius College on April 28th, 1617, aged seventeen. (College register.)

<sup>2</sup> See *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. pp. 493, 494.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.* and *Blakerway MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> On March 24th, 163<sup>9</sup>/<sub>1</sub>, he had already "sequestered himself from teaching in his place" (*Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 500), though he seems subsequently to have resumed work for a time.

<sup>5</sup> The Bailiffs had known for some months that Brooke was dissatisfied and thinking of leaving the school. On January 24th, 163<sup>9</sup>/<sub>1</sub>, they wrote to the college that he was "absent and not likely to return," and asked permission to appoint



been disappointed too in not obtaining the office of catechist when the Rev. John Foorde died in 1628. The Bishop recommended him, and the Corporation approved; but Meighen seems to have objected to his appointment.<sup>1</sup> Ralph Gittins returned to his old post under somewhat unfavourable circumstances. Hardly had he resumed work when an outbreak of sickness in the town compelled the migration of the school to the new country school-house at Grinshill. This happened apparently soon after the summer holidays, and the masters and boys were not able to return to Shrewsbury for many months.<sup>2</sup> Of the school doings during the stay at Grinshill we know nothing, except that Meighen was prevented by sickness from attending the November audit in the Exchequer, and that he was represented there by Thomas Hayward, his son-in-law.<sup>3</sup>

It is probable that when the Bailiffs pressed the college so strongly to appoint Ralph Gittins once more to be second master they had in view his future promotion to the higher room. Early in 1632 Meighen permanently ceased to do any teaching in school.<sup>4</sup> His work was taken at first by temporary substitutes, and afterwards by Gittins.<sup>5</sup> But Meighen retained in his own hands the general management and supervision of the school. But two years' experience convinced the leading members of the Corporation that this system of divided responsibility did not work well. They

his successor. There is no doubt that they had Gittins in their minds at the time. They had already written to the Lord Keeper in his behalf. (*Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. p. 500.)

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> The plague was still raging in Shrewsbury in 1632. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> See school register. It is noted in the school account-book that Meighen borrowed a bell from St. Chad's to take to Grinshill.

<sup>4</sup> In the case submitted by the Bailiffs in July, 1635, to the Judges of Assize and the Recorder of Shrewsbury, it is stated that Meighen had then "ceased to exercise the functions of his office for more than three years by reason of his great age" (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,024), so he must probably have resumed work again after he "sequestered himself from teaching" in 1632.

<sup>5</sup> A student named Robert Benney, who was admitted at Gonville and Caius College in 1634, is described in the college register as educated at Shrewsbury School under Mr. Simmons, and there are three or four students entered at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1635, whose education is attributed to Mr. Gittins.

saw the inconvenience of giving "the charge of teaching" in the highest room to the second master without also giving him "the superintendence of the whole school," and also felt that "the whole profits of the place" were not too much for one who had to "govern, not only children, but men."<sup>1</sup> So, early in 1634, negotiations were commenced with Meighen for the resignation of his office, although it was not till September, 1635, that an arrangement was effected, and that he actually resigned. The Bailiffs of the year 1634-1635 had also come to the conclusion that it would not be expedient to promote Gittins to the head-mastership. Though acknowledging that for aught they knew he might be "sufficient for learning," they doubted his "discretion, judgment, and other things necessary in a governor."<sup>2</sup> Some echoes of the old "malicious aspersions" may still have been audible in the town; but it must be confessed that Gittins had shown himself wanting in *discretion* in former years, though under circumstances of great provocation; and the Bailiffs' letter to the college, in which they discuss the subject, is ably expressed and moderate in tone. It is not to be wondered at, however, that, when he found he was not to be Head Master, Gittins should have felt unwilling to remain at the school in any lower position, and negotiations for his immediate resignation were at once commenced between him and the Bailiffs,<sup>3</sup> though no agreement was come to as to the terms of resignation before July, 1638. One cause of the delay no doubt was the claim made by the Corporation after Meighen's resignation in September, 1635, to appoint his successor, which led to somewhat prolonged legal pro-

<sup>1</sup> See the Bailiffs' letter to the college, dated April 21st, 1635, in the *Hist. of St. John's College*. The master and seniors had, on March 9th, suggested that the second master might be promoted to chief place; but they expressed their willingness, if this could not be done, to try to find some able man to do the work who would be content with £20 a year during Meighen's life. This letter is among the town records.

<sup>2</sup> See the Bailiffs' letter quoted above.

<sup>3</sup> A later letter from the Bailiffs, of the date March 16th, 1638, speaks of negotiations having taken place between Gittins and their *predecessors*. These negotiations must have begun therefore some time between April 21st, 1635, and October 1st of the same year.

ceedings. But there seems to have been an unwillingness on the part of the Bailiffs to offer Gittins fair terms. The Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, in an urgent letter which he wrote to the Bailiffs on the subject, some time subsequent to November 16th, 1637, speaks of their having "long demurred upon the business." He reminds the Bailiffs that the "worthye gentleman" had been "long deprived of his place, whereby hee loste much," and proposes that, in addition to the pension of £15 a year allowed by the ordinances, Gittins should receive a donation of £60, expressing his belief that the offer would be "thanckefullye" accepted.<sup>1</sup>

It is not always possible to ascertain when the *unreasonableness* which was so frequently displayed by the Bailiffs in school matters was due to their own self-will, or to pressure put upon them by the majority of the Corporation.<sup>2</sup> The Bailiffs of 1637-1638, at any rate, Mr. Richard Llewellyn and Mr. John Wightwick, do not seem to have lost much time, after they received the Bishop's letter, in asking for the college consent to the terms suggested by his lordship.<sup>3</sup> The formal document, in which the master and seniors of St. John's College give permission to the Bailiffs to take from the *stock remanent* a sum of £60, to be given to "Ralph Gittins, gentleman, as a reward and gratuitye for his former paynes, care, and service" in the school, is dated March 22nd, 1637,<sup>3</sup> and Gittins's actual resignation was made on July 16th, 1638.<sup>4</sup> After he had once learned the objections entertained by the Bailiffs in 1635 to his further promotion, Ralph Gittins does not appear to have made any attempt to press his claims, acknowledging that his imperfect sight and hearing

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Robert Wright, who had succeeded Bishop Morton in 1632. His letter will be found in the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> One of the Bailiffs of 1636-1637, Mr. Simon Weston, wrote privately during his year of office to the master of St. John's College, saying that he had had "no hand nor heart" in recent controversies, and that he was ready to join the college in redressing anything that had been unjustly done. (*Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i.)

<sup>3</sup> The document is given in the school account-book.

<sup>4</sup> See school account-book. The deed of resignation is duly witnessed by the Bailiffs and others.



were positive disqualifications.<sup>1</sup> There is a note too in the register of benefactors to the school library, which seems to indicate that his memory also was beginning to fail him during the latter part of his stay at Shrewsbury.<sup>2</sup> Gittins retired to Middle, a village in Shropshire, where his father had settled some years before, having bought a lease of the Eagle Tavern Farm from the Earl of Derby. But he did not forget the school where he had laboured so long; and, both in 1638 and in 1643, we find mention made of books which he presented to the library. He seems to have been a warm-hearted, able, but impulsive man, who, if he made some enemies, certainly made many friends, and managed to live down much of the animosity which prevailed for a time against him among some of the inhabitants of Shrewsbury.<sup>3</sup> We may hope that in his retirement in the country he found that peace and tranquillity which were denied him during so many years of his Shrewsbury life.

Ralph Gittins died at Middle, and lies buried at the upper end of the south aisle in the parish church. Gough, the historian of Middle, has preserved a mocking epitaph, which he made on Sir John Bridgman, Lord President of the Marches, who is said to have been unduly severe in the discharge of his duties, often imprisoning persons in the Porter's Lodge of the Council House at Shrewsbury for trifling faults.

"Jam jacet argilla pons Lunæ conditus illa :  
 'Sirrah Satan' Dominus dixit 'hoc aufer onus';  
 Here lies Sir John Bridgman, clad in this clay;  
 God said to the devil : Sir, take him away."

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> During the interregnum between Meighen's resignation in September, 1635, and the legal appointment of a successor, two persons had given sums of 10s. each to Gittins for the library. But he had forgotten their names.

<sup>3</sup> Some of this animosity still lingered in Shrewsbury, even in 1635. Hotchkis has preserved the Corporation brief in the Chancery suit about the right of appointing the Head Master, which commenced in that year, and in it we find all the old stories against poor Gittins reproduced.



## CHAPTER VI.

Thomas Chaloner, Head Master, 1636-1645.

DURING the closing years of Meighen's reign many circumstances combined, as we have seen, to make the state of affairs at Shrewsbury School very unsatisfactory. Although in 1632, and even earlier, Meighen had ceased to be able to discharge the ordinary duties of his office, no steps appear to have been taken to induce him to resign before 1634; and his resignation was not completed till September, 1635. Some months previously the leading members of the Corporation of Shrewsbury, who had originally entertained the notion of promoting Mr. Gittins, the second master, to the highest room, not only changed their intentions on this point, but made up their minds to endeavour to wrest from St. John's College the right of appointing Meighen's successor. Forgetful of the widespread reputation which Shrewsbury School had so long enjoyed, and which it owed mainly to the excellent choice of Head Masters made by the college, the Bailiffs of 1634-35, Messrs. Charles Benyon and Thomas Hayes, distinctly announced to the master and seniors of St. John's College that, when the time came for the appointment of Meighen's successor, they intended to have "the chiefest stroke therein," and expressed their hope at the same time that the college would give their "direct assent" to this method of proceeding.<sup>1</sup> The duties connected with the Cambridge "commencement" and other urgent business which occupied the full attention of the master, who happened to be Vice-Chancellor that year, caused considerable delay before any reply could be made

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i. The date of the letter is April 21st, 1635.

by the college authorities. But on June 3rd, 1635, Mr. William Bodurda, one of the fellows, wrote a letter to Mr. Richard Meighen, the London publisher, evidently with the view of its contents being communicated to Mr. Charles Benyon, one of the Bailiffs, who was then in London.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Bodurda, who wrote in behalf of the master of the college, stated that he was at the time very busy, but had not forgotten Shrewsbury, and that he hoped shortly to select as Head Master "a man of extraordinary worth and parts." But he was anxious to know whether the Bailiffs proposed that the new Head Master should have the same income as his predecessor. If otherwise, Mr. Bodurda added, the sort of man they wished to appoint would not be able to accept the post. The school finances were in a flourishing condition at the time, and probably Mr. Richard Meighen was able to give satisfactory assurances as to the Bailiffs' intentions in the matter. For, on August 3rd, 1635, an official letter was sent by the master and seniors to Shrewsbury to say that they would choose "some able and experienced man" as soon as the place was actually void. On September 2nd the Bailiffs sent formal notice of Meighen's resignation, Messrs. Mackworth and Mytton, who were the bearers of their letter, being empowered by the Corporation of Shrewsbury to enter into negotiations with the college on the subject of a new Head Master.<sup>2</sup> In this first letter the Bailiffs merely expressed their hope that the master and seniors of St. John's would elect a good man. But on the following day a second letter was despatched, urgently recommending for the post a gentleman named Poole,<sup>3</sup> a native of Shrews-

<sup>1</sup> There is no doubt that the letter found its way into Mr. Benyon's hands and ultimately to Shrewsbury, where it is preserved among the town records. It is mentioned in the letter that Mr. Benyon was in London, and that Mr. Richard Meighen could ascertain from him, if necessary, what the master wished to know.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i.

<sup>3</sup> *Richard Poole* was admitted at Shrewsbury School July 26th, 1602, paying the burgess entrance fee. He matriculated at Gloucester Hall, Oxford, January 4th, 161½, as "paup. schol." of Shrewsbury, aged 16; B.A., January, 161¾; M.A., 1618; Vicar of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, March 29th, 1637, apparently resigning the Rectory of Hanwood on his appointment. Subsequently he obtained the Vicarage of Meole Brace, which he seems to have held with St. Chad's. Some-

bury and the son of a burgess, who had been, "ever since the time he could read English, brought up" in the school, until he went to Oxford, and who was "very well approved . . . for his life, conversation, religion, and instruction of youth," and had "given abundant testimony of his industry, sufficiency, and abilities of teaching scholars." The Bailiffs added that they had been pressed to urge Mr. Poole's claims by "some especial persons of ardent affection and zeal for the good of the school," and that, in order to enable him to make acquaintance with the college authorities, they had commissioned him to convey their letter to Cambridge.<sup>1</sup> But the master and seniors had made up their minds that they would not submit to the dictation of the Bailiffs, and on September 10th they proceeded to elect Mr. William Evans, M.A.<sup>2</sup>

With this appointment the Bailiffs refused to agree, alleging that Mr. Evans was a Master of Arts of but one year's standing, and only about twenty-three years of age, and therefore unfit "to govern scholars or ancient masters." The college thereupon nominated Mr. John More, who was a Master of Arts of fifteen years' standing,<sup>3</sup> but does not appear to have been educated at Shrewsbury School. In the meantime Mr. John Jones and Mr. John Proude, the newly-elected Bailiffs, took a bold course and called a public meeting, at which Mr. John Harding,<sup>4</sup> a Cambridge Master of Arts of twelve years' standing, was selected as a suitable candidate for the post. According to the Bailiffs' account of

time during the year 1616-17 he took Meighen's work temporarily, for which he was paid £5 13s. 4d. (School account-book.) In 1641 Mr. Poole was a benefactor to the school library, and two years later he died. He was buried at St. Chad's, March 7th, 1642.

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> Hotchkis gives Mr. Evans's Christian name as William. Boys of this name were entered at Shrewsbury School in 1618 and 1622, and both were sons of burgesses.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> A boy named John Harding was promoted from the Accidence School on December 14th, 1618, paying the burgess entrance fee. But it is manifestly impossible that he can have been a Master of Arts of twelve years' standing in 1635. It is plain, therefore, that the Bailiffs' second candidate was not statutorily qualified for the post.



the matter the choice made at the public meeting was "approved by all the justices of the county." They further describe him as one who had been extolled by the Bishop as an able man, and who was not only "free from any faction," but also "conformable to the Church government." On November 24th the Bishop wrote to the masters and seniors of St. John's, advising them to agree to Mr. Harding's appointment, in order "to avoid contention," and assuring them that many persons "of sound judgment" had testified to his "learning, judgment, method, government, and honesty."<sup>1</sup> But the Bailiffs were determined to have their own way, and did not even wait to see the effect of the Bishop's letter to St. John's College. Before it was written, in fact as early as November 20th,<sup>2</sup> they had installed John Harding in the Head Master's room. Legal proceedings were at once taken by the college to establish its right to "elect and send" masters to Shrewsbury School, and their claim was ultimately upheld by the Courts of Law. The litigation proved somewhat expensive to the Corporation, their bill of costs amounting to no less than £300.<sup>3</sup> John Harding seems to have remained, *de facto*, for six months Head Master, for we find in the school account-book, under the year 1635-36, entries of the stipends of Head Master and catechist for that period as paid to him.<sup>4</sup> It is probable that the case was decided against the Corporation early in May, and that Harding left Shrewsbury almost immediately afterwards, for the "gentleman whom the town placed in charge of the school" had been "long absent" when the Bailiffs of 1636-37 wrote to St. John's College in the early part of

<sup>1</sup> Hotchkis is the chief authority for the statements in the text.

<sup>2</sup> John Harding's signature is found in the school account-book as early as November 24th. By May 14th, 1636, he had ceased to sign the accounts, and had evidently taken his departure. Hotchkis says that the town put Harding into the Head Master's place on November 20th. He describes him as John Harding of Ribley, M.A.

<sup>3</sup> See *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> A student from Shrewsbury, admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge, on March 1st, 1638, is described in the college register as having been educated for three months under Mr. Harding.



February, 1638.<sup>1</sup> But the Shrewsbury Corporation seems to have been always very hard to persuade that it was in the wrong, and at least six months elapsed after Mr. Harding left Shrewsbury before the Bailiffs for the year were allowed to write a conciliatory letter to the college, lamenting the former differences, and suggesting that, if both authorities had the credit of the school in view, it would not matter which of them were "thought the principal actor," and asking the master and seniors to "finde out and commend a man in all respects fitte for the Head Place." Yet even in this letter the Bailiffs did not hesitate to reassert the right of the town under the terms of the foundation to appoint the schoolmasters. Perhaps this was insisted on by some of the more self-willed members of the Corporation. Mr. Weston's private letter shows that, at any rate, there were members of that body who had no sympathy with the baseless and extravagant claims put forward by the late Bailiffs and many of their predecessors. Mr. Weston declares distinctly that he had "neither hand nor heart in the former controversies" between the college and his predecessors, and expresses a hope that they may be forgotten. He adds that the long interregnum had been "to the great prejudice both of the town and country," and implores the college, "for God's sake, for its own credit, and for the prosperity of the ancient school entrusted" to its charge, to use expedition in sending to Shrewsbury "an able, honest, and discreet man" to fill the vacant head-mastership. In the meantime David Evans, the third master, seems to have been carrying on the school in the best way he could.

St. John's College admission-book shows us that at some time previous to the appointment of Meighen's successor he was acting as Head Master,<sup>2</sup> and this can only have been

<sup>1</sup> The Bailiffs were Thomas Nicholls and Simon Weston. Their letter is undated, as is also a private letter of Mr. Weston's sent to the college by the same bearer; but, as the writer of this second letter mentions that "a third part of his glass" was "already run," we can approximate very closely to the date of the letters. (See *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i.)

<sup>2</sup> Ezra Price, admitted at St. John's College, September 18th, 1646, is described as educated under Evans and Chaloner.

after Harding took his departure from Shrewsbury in 1636. The Corporation accounts for this year, 1636-37, mention the payment of £170 11s. 10d. to St. John's College for "their charge expended in questioning of y<sup>e</sup> town for placing Mr. Harding cheife Scholemaister, according to y<sup>e</sup> Lord Referees Order." But a letter from the Bailiffs, dated March 16th, 1637, thanking the college authorities for making "an allowance of their charges in the late suits," shows that they dealt liberally with the Corporation in only requiring the payment of a portion of their costs.<sup>1</sup>

Now that the dispute was at last happily settled the college lost no time in making choice of a new Head Master.<sup>2</sup> The gentleman selected for the post was Thomas Chaloner, M.A., of Jesus College, Cambridge. Blakeway says that he was born at Llansilin, a Denbighshire village on the borders of Shropshire, and this may very likely have been the case. But it is certain that his father was residing in Shropshire when Thomas Chaloner was entered at Shrewsbury School on November 17th, 1614;<sup>3</sup> and, when admitted a scholar of Jesus College on October 20th, 1620, he was described in the college register as of Shropshire.

George Chaloner, who was placed in the second school at Shrewsbury on July 14th, 1617, also paid a Shropshire admission fee, and was probably a brother of the future Head Master. It is possible that the Rev. Jonas Chaloner,<sup>4</sup> who was appointed Rector of Much Wenlock in 1613 and Vicar of Condover some time in 1615, was the father of these boys.

<sup>1</sup> Hotchkis mentions a decree of the Star Chamber, issued on November 15th, 1637, which appears to imply that the Corporation had withdrawn its claim to appoint Meighen's successor without any absolute decision in the Courts of Law, and had agreed to pay the college costs.

<sup>2</sup> The letter of Dr. William Beale, Master of St. John's College, to the Bailiffs, announcing that the college had selected Mr. Chaloner, is given in full in the school account-book. It is dated February 17th, 1638. (See Appendix.)

<sup>3</sup> This is shown by his entrance fee.

<sup>4</sup> Jonas Chaloner matriculated at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, in 1538, as pleb. fil. of Staffordshire, aged seventeen. He graduated B.A. (Christ Church) in 1588, and M.A. in 1591; Rector of Byfield, Northamptonshire, 1597; Rector of Much Wenlock, 1613; Vicar of Condover, 1615. (FOSTER.)

As Thomas Chaloner was at once placed in the highest school when entered at Shrewsbury, we may assume him to have been at the time at least fourteen years old. On July 5th, 1617, he entered at Jesus College, Cambridge, as a *quadrantarius* or pensioner, graduating as B.A. in 1620 and as M.A. in 1624. He seems to have engaged at once after taking his degree in educational work,<sup>1</sup> so that his scholastic experience had already been considerable when he became Head Master of Shrewsbury.

Chaloner's first entry in the school register is dated March 5th, 163<sup>9</sup>. He seems to have made at once a favourable impression on the townspeople. The Bailiffs, on March 16th, thank the college warmly for sending "so able and every way qualified a schoolmaster," and express their readiness to arrange with the college for the increase of his stipend.<sup>2</sup>

Chaloner's success as Head Master amply justified the encomiums of the Bailiffs. Before nine months had elapsed he had already entered 128 new boys, and in each of the three following years more than 100 names were placed on the school register. But the prosperity of Shrewsbury School could not remain for long unaffected by the troubles which were now coming slowly but steadily over the land, and the register soon begins to show a serious diminution in the number of entries.<sup>3</sup> Writing in November, 1642, Chaloner says, with some pathos, "Let my successor blame civill war . . . that academies mourn and are desolate, that colonies of the muses are desolate, and the number of Shrewsbury Schoole for this two yeares is so small." Two months before these words were written King Charles had arrived in Shrewsbury on the invitation of the Corporation.<sup>4</sup> Civil war

<sup>1</sup> Writing towards the close of 1658, Chaloner states that he had then been engaged in teaching boys for seven *lustra*, or thirty-five years. This would make his school work to have begun in 1623, or thirteen years before he was appointed to Shrewsbury. The Head Master of Geddington School shortly before 1634 was named Chaloner, and may have been the Salopian.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hist. of St. John's College*, vol. i.

<sup>3</sup> Seventy-eight boys were admitted between November 17th, 1640, and November 17th, 1641, and seventy-nine in the following year.

<sup>4</sup> Charles I. reached Shrewsbury on September 20th, 1642. Hyde had kept up a correspondence with a "Canon of a Collegiate Church in Shrewsbury," "a



was then inevitable. The King's standard had been set up at Nottingham on August 25th,<sup>1</sup> and small detachments of the rival forces had already met in trifling skirmishes. The inhabitants of Shrewsbury received the King with enthusiastic loyalty, and the schoolmasters seem to have undertaken their fair share of the hospitality which the King's visit demanded from all loyal Salopians. Charles I. himself took up his abode at the Council House, in the immediate neighbourhood of the school; but Lord Keeper Littleton,<sup>2</sup> Viscount Grandison, Archbishop Williams, Lord Cholmeley, and Sir Richard Dyot were all entertained by Chaloner, while Lord Grey of Ruthin, and a brother of Lord North, were the guests of David Evans, the second master, who had been promoted to that office on July 16th, 1638.

The sojourn of the royal party at Shrewsbury was not prolonged beyond October 12th, and from September 23rd to September 27th it was interrupted by a visit to Chester. While the King was at Shrewsbury the gentlemen and freeholders of the county were summoned to meet him, and he made an appeal to them for assistance in men and money. Sir Richard Newport, who was created Baron Newport of High Ercall during the King's visit, gave £6000 towards the support of the royal cause,<sup>3</sup> and Sir Thomas Lyster, of Rowton, also contributed a purse of gold.<sup>4</sup> The school-chest

dexterous and discreet person," who had been at Nottingham, and an experimental visit of his own had convinced him that the town was "well resolved." The Mayor, Mr. Richard Gibbons, Hyde describes as "an old humorous fellow." (CLARENDON'S *History of the Rebellion*.) A draft of a speech prepared for the Mayor to deliver on the King's arrival has been printed in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society*.

<sup>1</sup> See CLARENDON'S *History of the Rebellion*. The King sent a commission from Nottingham to Mr. Francis Otley, dated September 4th, to raise 200 men and take them into Shrewsbury. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> See school register.

<sup>3</sup> Sir Richard Newport is described by Clarendon as "a gentleman of very good extraction." He also says that the suggestion to make him a peer came first from his son, Francis Newport, M.P., who stated that his father would, under such circumstances, be inclined to present a good sum of money to the King. The King, Clarendon adds, disliked the proposal, but after his return from Chester, being satisfied of the merit and ability of Sir Richard and the promise shown by his two sons, consented. (*Rebellion*, vol. iii. p. 257.)

<sup>4</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY.



happened to be well filled at this time. The annual audit of 1640 had shown a balance of nearly £800, and there is no note of any considerable expenditure during the next year.<sup>1</sup> Dr. Matthew Babbington appears to have made known to Lord Falkland the flourishing condition of the school finances, and the result was that £600 was advanced as a loan to the King, who formally promised, under his sign and seal, to repay the same on demand. A sum of £47 10s. was at the same time lent to the town.<sup>2</sup> The King's acknowledgment of the loan made to him is dated October 11th, 1642,<sup>3</sup> the day before he left Shrewsbury, and it is probable that he knew nothing about it till then. As the name of Mr. John Studley, who was the Mayor of Shrewsbury in the year 1642-43, is not mentioned in connection with the loan, it is evident that it must have been made in September, soon after the King's arrival, and before the municipal elections for the year (which took place annually on the Friday after St. Michael's Day) had been held. Four years later, towards the close of the year 1646, when the town was completely under puritan domination, a bill was filed in Chancery by the Corporation against Richard Gibbons, the Mayor of 1641-42; Thomas Chaloner, the late Head Master; and Thomas Betton and Robert Betton,<sup>4</sup> the sons and

<sup>1</sup> In his account of this audit Chaloner mentions that a brick wall, which had been built at the back of his house, fell down after two days, and had to be rebuilt at the cost of £14 18s. He carefully records the names of the knaves who built the wall.

<sup>2</sup> See school register.

<sup>3</sup> The document is thus worded:—

“Charles Rex.

“Trusty and well beloved we greet you well. Whereas ye have, out of your good affection to our present service and towards the supply of our extraordinary occasions, lent unto us the sum of £600, being a stock belonging to your school founded by our royal predecessor King Edward the Sixth, in this our Town of Shrewsbury. We do hereby promise that we shall cause the same to be truly repaid unto you whensoever ye shall demand the same, and shall always remember the loan of it as a very acceptable service unto us. Given under our Signet at our Court at Shrewsbury this 11th of October, 1642.

“To our trusty and well beloved Richard Gibbons, late Mayor of our Town of Shrewsbury, and Thomas Chaloner, Schoolmaster of our Free School there.”

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Betton and Robert Betton were both “familiar friends” of Chaloner. The latter was Mayor in 1643-44. Their father had served the office of Bailiff in 1629-30, and was Mayor in 1639-40.

executors of the late Robert Betton, the senior alderman at the time of the loan, who, with Richard Berrington, the senior member of the Town Council, also now dead, had charge of the four keys by which the school-chest was unlocked, for misappropriation of the school funds. On December 24th, 1646, the plaintiffs' bill, together with the defendants' answers and the plaintiffs' exceptions to the same, came before the Master of the Rolls, who ordered that Mr. Edward Rich, one of the Masters of the Court, should examine the various documents, and that, if he did not consider the answers sufficient, the defendants should be ordered to make more perfect answers. The next time we hear of these legal proceedings is on July 23rd, 1650, on which day a petition was presented by the Corporation to the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal, praying for sequestration against the estate of Richard Gibbons, unless he should duly answer the plaintiffs' bill. The Court ordered that sequestration should issue in compliance with the petitioners' request, unless Richard Gibbons or his clerk in court should, after due notice given them, show cause to the contrary. Thomas Chaloner had, it appears, put in a more perfect answer to the Corporation bill of complaint, in compliance with the order made by the Master of the Rolls on December 24th, 1646; but no second answer had been furnished by Richard Gibbons.

On October 4th, 1650, Mr. Dolbye appeared as counsel for Richard Gibbons, and showed by affidavits that he had of late years suffered imprisonment in Shropshire, and that "since he came forth of prison he had been constrained to absent himself from his place of abode," and that he was "very much impoverished" as well as "very aged and infirm." The Court thereupon ordered that the conditional order of sequestration should be discharged.<sup>1</sup> Subsequently the High Court of Chancery appointed Commissioners<sup>2</sup> to

<sup>1</sup> Richard Gibbons, the "old humorous fellow," who was offered knighthood by the King before he left Shrewsbury, had been for many years a member of the Corporation, and was Bailiff of the town in 1619-20, and again during part of the year 1628-29.

<sup>2</sup> The Commissioners were Richard Smith, John Hughes (?), William Cheshire, and Richard Taylor, gentlemen.

take sworn depositions at Shrewsbury in reference to the allegations of the Corporation on behalf both of plaintiffs and defendants. The Commissioners met on April 21st, 1652, at the house of Mr. John Hughes, vintner. The witnesses called for the plaintiffs were Mr. Robert Forster,<sup>1</sup> stationer, aged sixty-four; Mr. Rowland Tench, gentleman, aged fifty-one, and three others, whose evidence was absolutely of no moment at all. From the depositions of the two first named, and the two answers of Mr. Chaloner, with which they are in substantial agreement, we can arrive with tolerable certainty at the true history of the loan. Lord Falkland,<sup>2</sup> on hearing from Dr. Babbington of the large amount of money in the school-chest, sent to the Mayor, asking that it should be surrendered for the King's service. The consent of the Corporation, or of the great majority of its members, having been obtained,<sup>3</sup> an officer was sent, either by the King or by some of the Privy Council, to demand Chaloner's key, the Mayor, senior alderman, and senior councillor having already surrendered theirs. This demand, Chaloner says, he did not venture to refuse; but whether he sent his key, or took it, he did not remember.

Rowland Tench was the only witness who spoke from personal knowledge of what happened in the Exchequer on the day when the money was taken out of the school-chest. He says that all the four keys were produced, but that the Mayor was the only one of their custodians whose presence he remembered. He was sure that Chaloner had either brought or sent his key, but he had no knowledge as to who sent or brought the other keys. He saw the money taken out of the chest and given to some that came from the King. Robert Forster was not in the Exchequer when

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Robert Forster, who had been School Bailiff at the time of the loan, seems to have *known* very little about the transaction. He guarded carefully nearly all his answers with the phrase, "As I have heard."

<sup>2</sup> Robert Forster is the authority for Lord Falkland's connection with the matter, and both Forster and Chaloner for Dr. Babbington's.

<sup>3</sup> Chaloner makes this assertion as to the general consent of the Corporation on the strength of a declaration made by Mr. Timothy Turner, the Recorder, at a public meeting in the Town Hall.



all this was going on, but was in the Town Hall subsequently, when he saw some strangers "telling money, which they said was the school money." The money, according to Tench's statement, fell short of £600, and he mentions his belief that Forster made up the deficiency. Forster says nothing about this in his evidence, and the fact that nearly £50 was lent to the town at the same time that the loan was made to the King is almost conclusive proof that Tench was in error on this point. The record of the royal loan, which Chaloner wrote in the school register at the time of the November audit of 1642, was subsequently torn out. As the register remained in Chaloner's possession after the capture of Shrewsbury and during his subsequent wanderings, it seems probable that, for some reason or other, he thought it desirable to get rid of this bit of contemporary evidence at the time of the Chancery proceedings. More than a year elapsed, after the depositions of which we have spoken were taken, before the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal gave their final judgment, and it was not till Wednesday, May 11th, 1653, that the Court, after hearing counsel on both sides, decided that it "saw no cause in equity to give the plaintiffs any relief upon their bill," and ordered "that the matter of the said bill should be from henceforth clearly and absolutely dismissed."<sup>1</sup>

Mention has been frequently made on the last few pages of the Mayor of Shrewsbury. Bailiffs now belonged only to the past history of the town. A new Charter had been granted

<sup>1</sup> Both Hotchkis and Blakeway deal with the question of the loan transaction, as well as with the legal proceedings that followed it. But the account of the matter which is given in the text is mainly based on documents preserved among the municipal records in the Town Hall. The Corporation bill is drawn up with somewhat unnatural virulence and malevolence. Probably there was some private spite at work. The younger Bettons, *e.g.*, are accused of having joined the other defendants in a fraudulent and dishonest plot to carry out certain corrupt and baleful designs, on the alleged ground that their father was in the habit of consulting them both in private and public matters. Chaloner's "answers" are chiefly interesting as expressing his manifest and, no doubt, erroneous belief that he was not, under the ordinances, in any way responsible for the proper use of the school monies when once paid into the chest, and also his knowledge that at various times, both before he was master and when he was master, the school money had been used by the Corporation for illegal purposes.



to Shrewsbury on June 16th, 1638, under which a Mayor was henceforth to discharge the duties which previously had appertained to the two Bailiffs jointly.<sup>1</sup>

The change in the system of town government was indirectly the cause of considerable expense to the school; for not only the Head Master and the School Bailiff, but also the Master of St. John's College, had to attend before the Council when the town Charter was in question, and their expenses, which from first to last amounted to £30, were borne by the school and not, as they ought to have been, by the town.<sup>2</sup> A little before the time when the Charter was granted the Council seems to have settled two matters of greater interest to the school.<sup>3</sup> In the first place permission was given for an increase in the stipends hitherto paid to the schoolmasters. Such an increase had been originally suggested by the Bailiffs on March 10th, 1638, and they now proposed to increase the Head Master's annual income by £10, and that of the second and third masters by £5. The college having given its assent to this proposal on September 7th, 1638, the new arrangement was carried into effect on October 3rd, 1638.<sup>4</sup> The other matter with which the Council dealt in 1638 was the amount of stipend to be paid from school funds to the Vicar of Chirbury. This had originally been £9 6s. 8d., but disputes on the subject had been pending for many years. In 1608 the Bishop of Hereford, in a high-handed way, had made a grant to Mr. Lawrence Jones, who was then Vicar of Chirbury, of all the small tithes of Chirbury, and of the tithes of corn, grain, and hay, and all other tithes in the township of Winsbury, in the parish of Chirbury. By what title the Bishop imagined he could dispose of these tithes, which were expressly given to the school by the indenture

<sup>1</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> The Council issued their decree from Whitehall on March 30th, 1638. It is given in full in the school account-book.

<sup>4</sup> A copy of the deed of augmentation, executed by the Bailiffs, and duly witnessed, may be found in the same account-book.

of Elizabeth, it is hard to say; and he does not seem to have been able to make good his grant.<sup>1</sup>

The next we hear of the matter is in 1627, when Archbishop Laud wrote strongly to the Bailiffs about it, averring that "God and men wold cry shame vppon vs, if there be not care taken that some honest portion, to wytt, £40 a yeare, at the least, be allowed." The Archbishop's letter was forwarded by the Bailiffs to St. John's College,<sup>2</sup> and Meighen, the Head Master, was commissioned to negotiate with the Archbishop and the college authorities on the subject. Next came a Commission of Enquiry, of which Neile, the Archbishop of York, and Lord Keeper Coventry, were members. The master and seniors of St. John's College, writing to them on January 18th, 1633, express a hope that an increase of the poor stipend of the Vicar of Chirbury might be effected without breach of oath, or any essential alteration of the school statutes and ordinances, affecting other things of much importance. From certain expressions of thankfulness in this letter for favour shown to the college in matters connected with Shrewsbury School, it is evident that the Commissioners were dealing with other business besides the application of the Chirbury tithes.<sup>2</sup> No immediate result came from this Commission, and sometime in the year from November, 1635, as we learn from the school account-book, a bill in Chancery was exhibited by the Vicar of Chirbury against the Bailiffs and Head Master, praying for better maintenance. The Vicar's suit was "referred" by consent of all parties to referees to be appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury; and this reference seems to have led to a formal ratification by the Archbishop, sometime in the year 1636, of the Bishop of Hereford's grant.<sup>3</sup> The school authorities subsequently represented to the Council that, if the Bishop's grant were confirmed, it would cost the school more than £65 over

<sup>1</sup> It is stated in the school account-book, under the year 1637-38, that the Bishop's "instrument was overthrown by course of law."

<sup>2</sup> See BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*.

<sup>3</sup> It is stated in the school account-book that the Bishop's grant was ratified in 1636 by Sir Nathaniel Brent, by authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

and above the £9 6s. 8d. which they had hitherto paid annually to the Vicar of Chirbury, and that it would be impossible, under such circumstances, to carry out the school ordinances; but that they were quite willing to increase the Vicar's stipend to £50 per annum. This payment was accordingly authorised by the Council in their decree of March 30th, 1638.<sup>1</sup> An account has already been given of the long delay which took place before a suitable provision was made for Mr. Ralph Gittins at the time of his proposed resignation. A somewhat similar question, as to the amount of pension which should be paid to the Rev. Ralph Jones, who had resigned the third-mastership as long ago as 1627, was decided in March, 1638, by the Court of Requests at Westminster, which awarded him £50 down, and an annuity of £10.<sup>2</sup>

The settlement of the Chirbury dispute was soon followed by a similar agitation about the stipend of the curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. In August, 1639, a letter was sent from Archbishop Laud, the Lord Keeper, and Mr. Secretary Windebank, to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, Timothy Tournour, Esq., Recorder of Shrewsbury, and others, pointing out that, though the value of the tithes had much increased since the time of Edward VI., the curate of St. Mary only received his original stipend of £20, and stating that the Council expected it to be raised to a full quarter of the tithes received by the school from St. Mary's parish.<sup>3</sup>

But we must return to the time of the King's visit to Shrewsbury in 1642. Gloomy as the prospects might look, it was then still possible to pray, as Chaloner did pray, "Deus pacis pacem indulgeat." But a year later all hope of peace was at an end, and in November, 1643, we find him appealing not to "the God of Peace," but to "the Lord of Armies." "*Ἰλαθὶ κύριε στρατευμάτων.*" Chaloner's spirits, however, were still pretty good. He was even able to make

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book.

<sup>2</sup> See school account-book. The £50 was paid in separate sums of £10, the first payment being made on March 8th, 1638, and the last on April 5th, 1637.

<sup>3</sup> See a letter from the Recorder in BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*.



some fun out of the misfortunes of his loyalist friends, noting that the people of Denbighshire had not been able to "hold their Holt,"<sup>1</sup> and he records, with manifest satisfaction, that there was a *dinner* on November 13th, after the audit was ended, instead of the customary *banquet*.

During the two years which followed the King's visit town after town in Shropshire and North Wales fell into the hands of the puritans. But the inhabitants of Shrewsbury, reinforced as they were by many of the county loyalists who had taken refuge within their walls, were for a long time able to hold their own against all attacks, until, through the treachery of some puritan sympathisers in the place itself, the garrisons of Wem, Moreton, and other places in the neighbourhood were able to effect an entry during the night of February 22nd, 1644, and to gain possession of the town.<sup>2</sup>

More than two years had passed since the arrival of the King in Shrewsbury, and although during this time loyalists must have met with constantly increasing difficulties in entering the town, seventy new boys were admitted in the year from November, 1642. Two of these boys came from the north, George Savile and William Savile, sons of Sir William Savile, Bart., of Thornhill, Yorkshire. George Savile, afterwards Marquis of Halifax, familiarly known to readers of Macaulay's *History of England* as "The Trimmer," was undoubtedly one of the most sagacious and prudent statesmen England has seen.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Holt Castle was captured by Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Middleton in 1643. The Royalists recovered it in February, 1644, but they had to surrender it again in the following April.

<sup>2</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *Hist. of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>3</sup> *Sir George Savile*, Bart., Marquis of Halifax, was born about November 11th, 1633. His mother was Anne, daughter of Lord Keeper Coventry. His father, who was a strong loyalist, was governor of Sheffield Castle at the time of his death on January 24th, 1642. The castle surrendered on August 11th, 1644, when it was stipulated that Lady Savile and her family should be allowed to return unmolested to Thornhill. George Savile settled at Rufford, and was married before 1656. In 1660 he was elected M.P. for Pontefract; created Baron Savile of Eland and Viscount Halifax on January 13th, 1662. In 1672 Lord Halifax was made a Privy Councillor, and sent on a mission to Louis XIV. Was opposed to the execution of Lord Stafford, and also counselled lenity later on in respect of Lord Charles Russell and Algernon Sidney. In 1682 he was made Marquis of Halifax, and in 1685 he wrote his celebrated tract called *The Character of a*



Two of Chaloner's own sons, Samuel and John, were promoted this year from the accident school. His eldest son, Thomas, had entered Shrewsbury in 1637, soon after his father's appointment to the head-mastership, being then a little under ten years old.

Sons of Sir John Weld of Willey,<sup>1</sup> of Henry Bromley, Esq., Shropshire, and of Sir Paul Harris, Bart., of Boreatton, were also admitted about the same time. Next year the number of entries fell to twenty-two. But in the list we find the names of two Littletons,<sup>2</sup> from Pillaton Hall, Staffordshire, and of Walter Wrottesley, eldest son of Sir Walter Wrottesley, Bart., of Wrottesley, in the same county.

A boy named Lutwich was entered in 1644, paying apparently a fee of 6*s.* 8*d.*, who was subsequently called to the Bar, and having filled in succession the offices of Serjeant-at-Law, King's Serjeant, and Chief Justice of Chester, was in 1686 made a justice of the Court of Common Pleas.<sup>3</sup>

*Trimmer*, though it was not printed till 1688. After James II. came to the throne Halifax refused to support the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, and was struck off the list of the Privy Council. Soon after the accession of William III. he was made Lord Privy Seal. He died April 5th, 1695. He was twice married; first to Dorothy, daughter of Henry Spencer, first Earl of Sunderland; and second to Gertrude, daughter of the Hon. William Pierrepont of Thoresby. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>1</sup> This was Sir John Weld the younger. He and his father were both knighted while Charles I. was in Shropshire. Both of them were in Shrewsbury at the time it was captured, and were made prisoners in the same room. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.) Of the two boys, George Weld filled the office of Lieutenant of the Tower in the reign of Charles II. and represented Much Wenlock in several Parliaments, and John Weld became a merchant.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Littleton and Walter Wrottesley both succeeded to the title and estate of their fathers, and the former married his schoolfellow's sister. Another Shrewsbury schoolboy of this time, Francis Wolrych, who also succeeded to his father's baronetcy, married a second sister of Wrottesley, who in turn married a sister of Wolrych. (WOOTTON'S *Baronetage*.)

<sup>3</sup> *Sir Edward Lutwich* was son of William Lutwich, Esq., who belonged to an old Shropshire family. He was born in 1634. Student of Gray's Inn, 1652; called to the Bar, 1660; Ancient, 1671; Serjeant-at-Law, 1683; King's Serjeant, 1684, and knighted the same year; Chief Justice of Chester, 1684-86; Justice of Common Pleas, 1686. Deprived of his judgeship on the abdication of James II., and resumed practice at the Bar. Fined at the York Assizes in 1693 for refusing to take the oaths. Died in London in June, 1709, and buried at St. Bride's, Fleet Street. (FOSS'S *Lives of the Judges*.)

It is pleasant to learn that, during the dismal days of the siege, Shrewsbury was not entirely given over to melancholy reflections, and that Chaloner found a little relaxation after his school labours in the company of some of the loyalist gentlemen who occupied the town. In a *shutt* (the local term for a narrow lane or passage) leading from St. Chad's Church to the High Street there stood in those days an inn called "the Sextry." This inn was the accustomed place of meeting of "a knot of company keepers," as Chaloner calls them, or "a Club of good fellows," as they are described by Sir Thomas Bushell, the Master of the Mint, in a letter which he wrote from Oxford on January 6th, 164 $\frac{2}{3}$ , to Sir Francis Oatley.<sup>1</sup> Their names have been preserved by Chaloner. Among the party were Sir Francis Oatley, Mr. Richard Oatley, Sir Michael Ernley, Sir Thomas Lyster, Sir Richard Lee, Sir William Vaughan, and Mr. John Needham. But Chaloner had also many valued friends of lower rank in life, whose memory he delighted to recall in after years, when far away from the scenes of his Shrewsbury labours and pleasures. First in the list of Chaloner's familiar friends comes the name of David Evans, the second master, "Black David" as he was called by his intimates, or perhaps by the boys, an old school-fellow of his, and also a member of the same college at Cambridge. Then follow the names of three or four of the most prominent loyalists among the parochial clergy, including Peter Studley,<sup>2</sup> the author of *The Looking-*

<sup>1</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY.

<sup>2</sup> *Peter Studley* was third son of Mr. Thomas Studley of Shrewsbury, draper. Baptised at St. Alkmond's October 16th, 1585. Promoted from accident school December 16th, 1594. Matriculated at Gloucester Hall, Oxford, in 1610, as gen. fil. of Salop, having previously gone through his apprenticeship to Mr. Robert Bretton, glover, and been made a freeman of the Mercers' Company. His age, which was really twenty-five when he went up to Oxford, is given as twenty-two in the Oxford lists. B.A. in January, 161 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and M.A. in 1617. After taking holy orders he seems to have become assistant curate at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury; and from 1620 he was probably in sole charge, though he did not receive his formal appointment as curate till Dr. Sampson Price had resigned. In 1633, on July 5th, a young farmer named Enoch ap Evan, who lived at Clun in Shropshire, and who seems to have been a religious maniac, cut his brother's throat because he had received Holy Communion kneeling, and afterwards murdered his mother for screaming when she entered the room and

*Glass of Schism*, a book which had excited the vehement indignation of Shropshire puritans a few years before, who had recently resigned the vicarage of St. Chad; and Richard Poole, the chosen candidate of the Bailiffs for the headmastership of Shrewsbury at the time when Meighen resigned, who had succeeded Studley at St. Chad's. Mr. Roger Owen of the Council House, the existing representative of the Condover Owens, was another of Chaloner's special friends.

We also find in the list the name of Simon Weston, the Bailiff of 1636-37, who disapproved so strongly the opposition of the majority of his colleagues of the Corporation to the election of schoolmasters by St. John's College. Other friends mentioned are Robert Forster, a Shrewsbury bookseller, who filled the office of School Bailiff for many years, but was deprived of it on the capture of the town; Joseph Baynes,<sup>1</sup> the son-in-law of Thomas Owen the Herald-at-Arms, who completed the illumination of "the Arms of the Bailiffs" and presented it to the school library; Andrew Griffies,<sup>2</sup> one of the Shrewsbury aldermen, who filled the office of Bailiff in 1633-34; Mr. Thomas Bromhall<sup>3</sup> of

saw what had been done. Enoch ap Evan confessed all this to Mr. Studley, who visited him in the Shrewsbury prison on July 10th, and made a similar confession in court at the Shrewsbury Assizes in August, adding then that he had himself been in the habit of kneeling at Holy Communion, but had given up the practice in consequence of an inspired revelation. Both Mr. Justice Johnson and Mr. Studley wrote to the Council on the subject, Studley on July 31st, and the Judge on August 15th. (*State Papers, Domestic, Calendar, 1633-34.*) Studley published in the same year a book called *The Looking-Glass of Schism* to illustrate the excesses to which puritan fanaticism might lead. It was probably due to the obloquy which he brought on himself in Shrewsbury by this book that he resigned his cure in 1637. Two years later he became rector of the second portion of Pontesbury, which he held till the puritans became masters of Shropshire in 1645, when he was deprived. Peter Studley was a benefactor to the school library in 1629. He died in 1648, and was buried at Pontesbury on July 15th. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>1</sup> *Joseph Baynes* was promoted from the accidence school at Shrewsbury on December 14th, 1609.

<sup>2</sup> *Andrew Griffies* was promoted from the accidence-school December 16th, 1595.

<sup>3</sup> *Thomas Bromhall* was eldest son of Mr. John Bromhall, of Greenfields and Northwood Hall. Entered school in 1577. Succeeded his father sometime between 1606 and 1612. No less than eight sons of his were educated at Shrewsbury. Buried at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, October 17th, 1648.



Northwood Hall, Wem, and Greenfields, Shrewsbury; Mr. Robert Betton,<sup>1</sup> barrister-at-law, another Shrewsbury alderman, who filled the office of Mayor in 1643 and was an ardent loyalist; Mr. Thomas Betton,<sup>2</sup> a merchant, who shared his brother's politics, and was still living in 1663, when he was a benefactor to the school library; and Mr. John Studley,<sup>3</sup> a leading draper in the town, who was named an alderman in the Charter of 1638 and was elected Mayor in 1642.

One of the familiar friends is described as "Ben Evans of Raven," who may possibly have been the genial host of some rival tavern to "the Sextry," although Chaloner's inveterate habit of punning makes it more likely that he is alluding to the name his friend's mother bore before her second marriage. For there is no doubt that "Ben Evans" was the second son of Mr. Roger Evans of Shrewsbury, and was a contemporary of Chaloner's at school. His mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Hall, but she was a widow when she was married to Mr. Evans, her first husband having been John *Raven*, Esq., of Hadley, Suffolk, Richmond Herald-at-Arms. "Ben Evans" was nominated a member of the Town Council in 1638.

Nearly all these "familiar friends," as well as the more aristocratic frequenters of "the Sextry," had been educated at Shrewsbury School, and several of them, besides "Ben Evans," had been there at the same time with Chaloner. The Head Master's geniality and humour, his learning, his warm-hearted disposition, and his enthusiastic temperament,

<sup>1</sup> *Robert Betton* was son of Mr. Robert Betton, mercer, of Shrewsbury, who, like his son, was nominated alderman in the Charter of 1638, and who was also Mayor in 1639. Robert Betton, jun., who was baptised at St. Alkmund's July 16th, 1595, entered school in 1606. He afterwards became a Student of Lincoln's Inn, and was called to the Bar. Married Sara, daughter of Mr. Arthur Harries of Conover, at St. Chad's, on January 18th, 162½. Is described as "of Wilcott," in Shropshire. Had to compound for his estates by a payment of £320. Died in June, 1658.

<sup>2</sup> *Thomas Betton* entered school in 1608. His composition, when the puritans became dominant in Shropshire, amounted to £53 7s. 6d.

<sup>3</sup> *John Studley*, eldest son of Mr. Thomas Studley of Shrewsbury, draper, entered school in 1583. He married three times, but was dead when Chaloner penned his lists of friends in 1652.



must have made him a very pleasant companion. The catholicity, indeed, of his lists of friends is in itself almost a sufficient proof of his general popularity. It is sad to read, only a few years after the time of the pleasant evenings at "the Sextry," of the ravages which death had made among these old friends. Sir Michael Ernly<sup>1</sup> and Mr. John Needham<sup>2</sup> had been slain at the taking of the town, and Sir William Vaughan<sup>3</sup> at Tredagh.<sup>4</sup> Sir Francis Oatley,<sup>5</sup> of Pitchford, and his brother, Mr. Richard Oatley,<sup>6</sup> were dead,

<sup>1</sup> Sir Michael Ernly, who succeeded Sir Francis Oatley as governor of the town, was not educated at Shrewsbury School. Clarendon says that he was killed in his shirt when the town was taken; but as it appears from St. Chad's register that he was buried on April 28th, 1645, it is probable that neither Clarendon nor Chaloner were strictly accurate in the matter, and that Sir Michael died of his wounds.

<sup>2</sup> Captain John Needham was buried in St. Chad's Church on February 25th, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ . He was not a Shrewsbury scholar.

<sup>3</sup> *Sir William Vaughan* was an old Shrewsbury boy and a Royalist commander of distinction. He was sent over from Ireland into Shropshire in January, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and was soon after made governor of Shrawardine Castle. While holding this post he acquired the *sobriquet* of "The Devil of Shrawardine." In 1645 he was general of horse for the western counties, and in March, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ , he was defeated at Stow-in-the-Wold.

<sup>4</sup> Tredagh or Drogheda was stormed by Cromwell on September 11th, 1649, after a stout resistance, and about 2000 officers and men were put to the sword, the puritan soldiers, by Cromwell's orders, giving no quarter. About 100 men were burnt alive in a tower, also by the General's directions. Only one officer escaped with his life. (See *Cromwell's Letters*, vol. ii. No. cv.)

<sup>5</sup> *Sir Francis Oatley* was the eldest son of Thomas Oatley, Esq., of Pitchford, Salop. He entered school at Shrewsbury in 1611, matriculated at Lincoln College, Oxford, on December 4th, 1618, aged seventeen, and was admitted Student of the Inner Temple in 1619. In 1624 he married Lucy, daughter of Thomas Edwardes, Esq., and relict of Thomas Pope, Esq. When Charles I. arrived in Shrewsbury Francis Oatley was residing at "the College," which belonged to his father-in-law. The King knighted him on his departure and left him in charge of the town, though the royal patent for his appointment was not made out till some weeks afterwards. During his governorship a musket manufactory was set up in Shrewsbury. Sir Francis was superseded by Sir Michael Ernly in November, 1644. In 1645 he was Royalist Sheriff of Shropshire, Colonel Thomas Mytton being Sheriff for the Parliament. Sir Francis had to pay a composition of £1200 for his estates. He died September 11th, 1649. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY, and BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs*.)

<sup>6</sup> *Mr. Richard Oatley* entered Shrewsbury School the same day as his brother Francis. Their respective ages were then ten and nine, and they must have been forward boys for their years, as both were placed in the second school. Both also matriculated on the same day at Lincoln College, Oxford, and Richard Oatley graduated B.A. in 1622 and M.A. in 1624. He was in Shrewsbury at the time the town was taken.

and so was Sir Thomas Lyster,<sup>1</sup> of Rowton. In all, out of a list of thirty-six friends, no less than twenty-one were gone.<sup>2</sup> Chaloner's principles were too well known to allow any chance of his continuing to hold his position undisturbed when once the puritans got the upper hand at Shrewsbury. He was ejected from his mastership and plundered of all that he possessed. "Bonis omnibus exutus" (he writes) "ἀπεσκορακίσθαι."

He had been in charge of the school for eight years only, but they had been in many ways notable years in its history. A glance at the register will show that, although the remarkable success with which Chaloner's career at Shrewsbury commenced was seriously interrupted by the disturbed state of the country, the number of entries during the year never fell much below eighty up to the November before the capture of the town. One noticeable feature of the register in Chaloner's time is the very large proportion of boys who paid entrance fees as sons of knights, esquires, or gentlemen. Scions of most of the chief families of Shropshire and the neighbouring counties were educated at Shrewsbury while he was Head Master. Corbetts, Nedeams, Lees, Littletons, Lysters, Wolryches, Salesburys, Vaughans, Capells, Herberts, Cloughs, Bromleys, Hollands, Kynastons, Wrottesleys, Welds, Wynnes, Purcells, Loughtons, Anwills, and Rodens are to be found in the lists, and some of these names occur very frequently. Mention has already been made of David Evans' promotion to the second-mastership on July 16th, 1638, but not of the long time the Bailiffs allowed to elapse before they wrote to St. John's College, on September 1st, 1638, to make known the vacancy in the third room. Robert Ogden, B.A., of St. John's College, was selected by the master and seniors

<sup>1</sup> *Sir Thomas Lyster* was eldest son of Richard Lyster, Esq., of Rowton. He was baptised at Alberbury October 15th, 1612, and entered Shrewsbury in 1626, when he was placed in the highest school; admitted Student of the Inner Temple in 1630. A devoted loyalist, and presented the King on his arrival in Shrewsbury with 500 pieces of gold. After the capture of Shrewsbury Rowton Castle was gallantly defended by Lady Lyster for a fortnight, and she ultimately obtained from Colonel Mytton favourable terms of surrender. Sir Thomas was buried at St. Chad's March 17th, 1653.

<sup>2</sup> See Chaloner's diary in the school register, vol. ii.

as the new third master, and their choice was signified to the Bailiffs on September 7th. A week later they sent a Latin letter to the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield to the same effect, and on September 30th the Bishop informed the Bailiffs that he had "diligently and carefully examined" Mr. Robert Ogden, and had found him "very sufficiently learned and well deserving of the place," and that he desired them to give him formal admittance.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Hugh Spurstow,<sup>2</sup> who had been accidence master for many years, died on October 19th, 1636, and Mr. Ralph Jackson, M.A., must have been his successor. In Chaloner's notes about the proceedings at the audit of November 16th, 1642, he mentions that Mr. Jackson was given 30s. to the amendment of his small stipend, and that 40s. had been given him in the same way two years before. The next year Chaloner tells us that Mr. Jackson was leaving the place, and that £4 was given him at the November audit. He also mentions the fact that Mr. Jackson had presented *Polani Syntagma* to the school library, apparently as a parting gift. The register of benefactors shows that Mr. Jackson was connected with the school as early as 1638, for in that year he gave a "Dutch Bible" to the library. The only magisterial post he can have occupied at this time is plainly that of accidence master.<sup>3</sup> Mention has already been made of some of Chaloner's pupils who rose to distinction in after life; but a few other names may be added to the list. Robert Powell,<sup>4</sup> D.D., of Park, in the parish of

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book. Robert Ogden was the son of Mr. Robert Ogden, of Chelmsford, vintner, and was educated for seven years at Chelmsford Grammar School, under Mr. Peake. He was admitted sizar of St. John's College on July 1st, 1634, aged nineteen. Ogden remained third master till 1639. It is possible that he left Shrewsbury for Buxton, as a gentleman of his name was Head Master of Buxton in 1654. Phillips describes Robert Ogden as in holy orders.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hoichkis MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> *Ralph Jackson* was son of Mr. Ralph Jackson, of Whitchurch, Shropshire, and matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, on June 20th, 1628, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged twenty-one. He graduated B.A. of Lincoln College, April 30th, 1631, and M.A. of New Inn Hall, January 21st, 1632. The father was admitted at Shrewsbury in 1578 as a native of Shropshire.

<sup>4</sup> *Robert Powell*, who was eldest son of Edward Powell, Esq., of Park, was born in 1629. He was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1641; he graduated B.A.



Whittington, Shropshire, was Archdeacon of Salop, in Lichfield, and Chancellor and Canon of the Cathedral of St. Asaph. He seems to have been a decided pluralist, and to have found favour during the Commonwealth, as well as after the Restoration.

Silas Taylor,<sup>1</sup> also known as Domville, was a skilled musician and a man of considerable antiquarian knowledge, who served in the parliamentary army, and was afterwards appointed a sequestrator in Herefordshire. In this capacity he acted with such civility and moderation that the interest of some of the royalists who were under obligations to him procured for him soon after the Restoration the office of Commissary of ammunition at Dunkirk, and at a later period that of Keeper of the King's store-houses at Harwich.

Sir Adam Oatley,<sup>2</sup> knight, son of Sir Francis Oatley, was a barrister-at-law, and filled the office of Town Clerk of Shrewsbury from 1662 to 1681. He was also a Master in Chancery.

Sir Richard Oatley,<sup>3</sup> knight, another son of Sir Francis at Oxford on January 22nd, 1648, from Pembroke Hall, Cambridge; M.A. in 1651; incorporated at Cambridge, 1654; elected fellow of All Souls; made B.D. and D.D. at Oxford in 1663, and admitted to same degrees at Cambridge in 1678; King's Chaplain and Canon of St. Asaph, 1660; Rector of Whittington, 1666-81; Archdeacon of Salop, 1666; Chancellor of St. Asaph, 1670. Died February, 1683. (WOOD'S *Fasti*; BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs*.)

<sup>1</sup> *Silas Taylor* was eldest son of Silvanus Taylor, Esq., of Harley, Much Wenlock. Born July 16th, 1624. Entered Shrewsbury September 7th, 1637. In 1641 he became a commoner of New Inn Hall, Oxford, but on the outbreak of the Rebellion left without taking a degree and joined the rebel army, in which he became captain under the command of Colonel Edward Massie. Among other writings of Captain Taylor Wood mentions *The History of Gavelkind*. He died at Harwich November 4th, 1678. Wood says that Silas Taylor was at Westminster School. (*Athen. Oxon.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Adam Oatley* was baptised at Pitchford October 26th, 1628; admitted Student of Gray's Inn August 2nd, 1647; and called to the Bar July 2nd, 1652; knighted at Whitehall June 30th, 1680. Died October 12th, 1693. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; LE NEVE'S *Pedigrees of Knights*.) In 1711 his nephew, Dr. Adam Oatley, Bishop of St. David's, gave certain books to the school library, which are described as a legacy of Sir Adam, but some of the books were not published till after Sir Adam's death. The legacy was probably, in part at least, in money.

<sup>3</sup> *Richard Oatley* was baptised at Pitchford September 15th, 1626; entered Shrewsbury, together with his younger brother, Adam, on April 9th, 1638; admitted Student of Gray's Inn March 1st, 1648; married Lettice, daughter of Robert Ridgeway, Earl of Londonderry; knighted in June, 1660. Died in London August 10th, 1670.



Oatley, was elected M.P. for Shropshire in 1661. He was also a Deputy-Lieutenant for the county, and soon after the Restoration was made a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to Charles II.

Charles, Lord Kilmorey,<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas Harris,<sup>2</sup> Bart., of Boreatton Park, his brothers, Sir George<sup>2</sup> and Sir Paul,<sup>2</sup> who succeeded in turn to the baronetcy, and Cassius Benthall,<sup>3</sup> who became a colonel in the royal army, and fell in battle at Stow-in-the-Wold, were all at school together under Chaloner, and like many other pupils of his, whose names might be mentioned, were distinguished subsequently for their devotion to the royal cause.

<sup>1</sup> *Charles Nedeham*, Lord Kilmorey, was second son of Robert, Lord Kilmorey, who died in 1653. He succeeded to the title on the death of his elder brother, Robert, in 1657. In 1659 he joined Lord Derby and Sir George Booth in the premature movement in Lancashire for the restoration of the monarchy. He was made prisoner by General Lambert and taken to London, where he died in 1660. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Thomas Harris* was eldest son of Sir Paul Harris, Bart., of Boreatton Park, Shropshire, who died in July, 1644. Thomas Harris was originally entered at Shrewsbury in October, 1643, but he probably left school for a time on his father's death, as we find his name re-entered, together with those of his younger brothers, George and Paul, on January 8th, 1644. The boys were evidently at school when the town was captured in the following month, as the name of Sir Thomas is included in the list of prisoners. All three boys returned to Shrewsbury about a year after Pigott became Head Master in the place of Thomas Chaloner. Sir Thomas was concerned in 1655 in a plot to seize the Castle of Shrewsbury. The plot failed through the indiscretion of Ralph Kinaston, Esq., of Llansantffraid, Montgomeryshire, who, on the day before the castle was to be seized, openly enlisted troopers within ten miles of Shrewsbury to serve under Charles II. On news of this, Colonel Hunt, governor of Shrewsbury, who was doubtless aware of Sir Thomas's disaffection, marched on Boreatton at once with such troops as he could collect, and took him, and other gentlemen assembled in his house, prisoners. No lives seem to have been sacrificed in connection with this abortive plot, and Sir Thomas himself survived to the Restoration. In June, 1660, he applied for a lease of the Post Office, offering to pay £15,000 for it. (*Calendar State Papers, Domestic.*) On the death of Sir Thomas the baronetcy fell in succession to Sir George and Sir Paul, and on the death of the latter to their uncle, Sir Roger, who died in 1685, and was succeeded by his brother Robert. On the death of Sir Robert in 1693 the title became extinct. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; *BLAKEWAY'S Sheriffs; Transactions of Shropshire Archaeological Society for 1898*, etc.)

<sup>3</sup> *Cassius Benthall*, according to Owen and Blakeway, was a younger son of Lawrence Benthall, Esq., of Benthall, Shropshire, but he paid the eldest son's fee when entered at school in 1641. His name is given in the list of prisoners taken at the capture of Shrewsbury.

Two sons of Colonel Humphrey Mackworth of Betton Strange, who played a leading part in Shropshire on the side of the Parliament, were also at Shrewsbury School under Chaloner. Of these the elder, Thomas,<sup>1</sup> who succeeded to the family estates, was Farmer of the Excise in Lancashire, represented Shropshire in the Parliaments of 1656 and 1658, and was Sheriff of the county in 1669. The other son, Humphrey,<sup>2</sup> was a colonel in Cromwell's army and governor of Shrewsbury after his father's death. He represented Shrewsbury in the Parliaments of 1654, 1656, and 1658, and held the office of Town Clerk from 1652 to 1660. From 1649 to 1655 he discharged the duties of one of the Justices of Chester as deputy for Mr. John Bradshaw.

The Rev. Andrew Taylor,<sup>3</sup> of King's College, Cambridge, who was Head Master of Shrewsbury 1664-87, spent two or three years as a boy at Shrewsbury School before going to Eton.

The Rev. Richard Roderick,<sup>4</sup> M.A., the first Head Master of Wem Grammar School, was also a pupil of Chaloner.

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Mackworth* was born in 1626, and was entered at Shrewsbury School in May, 1638, on the same day as his younger brother Humphrey. Both boys were re-entered at school in 1641. Thomas was twice married, first to Anne, daughter and heiress of Mr. Richard Bulkeley, of Buntingsdale, and second, to a daughter of Colonel Thomas Mytton. (BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs*.)

<sup>2</sup> *Humphrey Mackworth* was baptised on May 31st, 1631, at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. He is said to have been made Recorder of Shrewsbury on Mr. Edward Moseley being appointed to a Scotch judgeship. But it is possible that his father may have been re-appointed Recorder on this occasion, for Mr. William Jones, who was chosen for the office on March 1st, 1653, is said to have been appointed on the death of Humphrey Mackworth, Esq., and it was of course the elder Humphrey Mackworth who died in 1654. There is probably some confusion in the records between father and son. Humphrey the younger died in 1681, and was buried on June 21st at Sutton. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> *Andrew Taylor* graduated B.A. in 1661, but there is some doubt whether he ever took his M.A. degree. He was nominated Head Master on November 30th, 1664.

<sup>4</sup> *Richard Roderick* was a native of Oswestry, and entered school in 1637. He was appointed Head Master of Wem Grammar School in 1650. Sir Thomas Adams was the founder of the school, which was at first carried on in a large room over the market-house. But in August, 1665, Mr. Wycharley, who had bought the barony and manor of Wem, forbade its further use for this purpose, and from that time till 1670, when the school-house was built, the masters appear to have taught the boys in church. Roderick matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, June 26th, 1640, aged nineteen; B.A. in 1644; M.A. (Brasenose) in 1647. He remained Head Master of Wem till his death in 1674. (GARBETT'S *Hist. of Wem*.)

In the registers of benefactors to Shrewsbury School library there are many notes in Chaloner's handwriting which throw some light on the state of things in Shrewsbury during the siege, and are, at the same time, illustrations both of his strong feelings on religious and political questions, and also of the somewhat malicious humour which was one of his characteristics. Soon after the occupation of Shrewsbury on behalf of the King a council of war was appointed for the whole district, of which, Arthur, Lord Capel, was president. This council held its meetings in the school library, and the names of the members who were present on April 3rd, 1643, on one of these occasions, have been preserved.<sup>1</sup> The place appointed for meeting was not altogether gratifying to a book-loving Head Master, and Chaloner has indignantly recorded in the register of benefactors that the *Notes of Heinsius on the New Testament*, given by Mr. Daniel, printer, was "stolen away when the King's Commission for Artillery sat daily in the library," and that *Dr. Andrewes' Sermons*, given by Mr. Andrew Griffies, one of the Shrewsbury aldermen, had been "basely torn by the sacrilegious fingers of a Scotch camp chaplain."<sup>2</sup>

In one place in the register Chaloner speaks of two leading puritans of Shropshire, Mr. Richard Clutton<sup>3</sup> and his father-in-law, Alderman Charles Benyon, by the nicknames which they apparently bore among the Shrewsbury loyalists, veiling his satire, however, under Greek words, and English words

<sup>1</sup> They were: Arthur, Lord Capel, Henry Bromley, Esq., High Sheriff of Shropshire, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Meenes, Sir Francis Oatley, Sir Richard Lee, Sir John Weld, Edward Cresset, Esq., and Euseby Andrewes, the secretary. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> Both these books were given to the library in 1644, so that the outrages cannot have been perpetrated till the latter days of the siege.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Richard Clutton gave Spenser's and Donne's poems to the library. Chaloner calls him "πρῶτος τῶν στοργγύλων τῶν καινοτομούντων καὶ γαμβρὸς τοῦ πλανδηλέγγου." Nehemiah Walton speaks of him in his *Historical Notices*, vol. ii. p. 97, as having taken an active part, in September, 1642, in trying to induce the inhabitants of Nantwich to resist the Commissioners of Array when they proposed to take possession of the town for the King. (*Blakeway MSS.*) He was a barrister-at-law and an Independent. Alderman Charles Benyon, who was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1593, was an attorney-at-law. He was Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1625 and 1634, and Mayor in 1644 and 1651.



written in Greek characters. Clutton was "the first of the Roundheads of the New Cut," and his father-in-law "the Plain Dealer." Elsewhere we find allusions to that "most bloody rebellion," and a eulogy of Archbishop Laud's "most learned" treatise against Fisher the Jesuit. From this latter entry, which was made in 1642, it is plain that a rumour of the impending fate of Laud had just reached Shrewsbury. The Archbishop "is condemned, they say, babad seggi orraban τῷ πρὶν." The interpretation of this cryptogram may be commended to the ingenuity of those skilled in such matters. Earlier in the same year is an amusing note on Dr. James Betton,<sup>1</sup> curate of St. Mary's, who "vespertilio-nised" when Shrewsbury became a royal garrison to avoid taking the oath of allegiance.

For some months after Chaloner's expulsion "Black David" was in charge of such boys as still remained in the school. His name appears in the school account-book under the year 1645-46 as second master, and fifty-two names were entered on the register between November 17th, 1645, and November 16th, 1646. It does not appear whether any application was made to St. John's College to elect a new Head Master. If such an application were made, the college, no doubt, declined to recognise Chaloner's place as vacant. Among the Corporation orders copied by Mr. Godolphin Edwards there is one, belonging to the municipal year 1645-46, to the effect that Mr. Richard Pigott be confirmed as chief schoolmaster and appointed catechist. This gentleman was a Master of Arts of Christ's College,

<sup>1</sup> *Dr. James Betton*, second son of Richard Betton, Esq., of Shrewsbury and Berwick, was promoted from the accident school on January 23rd, 159½, and graduated B.A. at Queen's College, Cambridge, in 1608; elected fellow in 1611; Treasurer, 1620-1622; curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, June, 1632. On returning to Shrewsbury after its capture he indignantly tore out of the parish register the entries made in his absence. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.) The entries are certainly missing from the beginning of September, 1642, to the end of June, 1643. The parish clerk subsequently entered several names of persons who had been buried during this interval, and appended a note that their names with many others were torn out when the town was taken. Dr. Betton became Rector of Worthen in 1645. He was buried at St. Mary's in 1665. In 1619 he gave books to the school library, and is described in the register as M.A. and fellow of Queen's College.



Cambridge, and, though not a native of Shrewsbury, nor educated at the school, he appears to have been connected with the town by marriage. Whoever invited him originally to come to Shrewsbury, his appointment had no further show of legality than that which could be given to it by this Corporation order. The first mention of Mr. Pigott's name in the school accounts occurs under the year beginning November 17th, 1646. But the new administration of the school was by no means acceptable to all the inhabitants of Shrewsbury, and a private school was set up in the town, in rivalry of the Grammar School, by a clergyman named Scofield.<sup>1</sup> Chaloner too carried away with him the esteem and confidence of many of the loyalists who would, under ordinary circumstances, have sent their sons to Shrewsbury School; and his educational work in Shropshire, Staffordshire, and Wales during the next eighteen years seems to belong rightly to the history of Shrewsbury.

<sup>1</sup> See the Life of Corbet Owen in Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*

## CHAPTER VII.

Thomas Chaloner's Wanderings, 1644-1662.

FOR eighteen years after the capture of Shrewsbury and his own expulsion from the head-mastership of the school Chaloner led the life of a wanderer, pitching his tent sometimes in Shropshire, sometimes in Staffordshire, and sometimes in North Wales ;<sup>1</sup> but wherever he might fix his home the result was always the same, a crowd of pupils gathered round him and a flourishing school was at once established. Certainly the loyalist schoolmaster met misfortune with courage. Within a few weeks of the capture of the town he had already started a school at Ryton, near Baschurch. But for some reason or other he did not like the locality, and after trying it for seven months he shifted his quarters to a place called Newnes, near Ellesmere. A journey to London soon followed, undertaken in the hope of coming to some terms with the ruling authorities. Chaloner's object was attained, but at a heavy cost both to his purse and his conscience. "Conditiones admisi (he mournfully says) et rei et conscientiæ meæ perquam graves." He was obliged, in fact, to pay a composition of £60, and with as few grimaces as possible to swallow the covenant. Feeling tolerably safe from further interference Chaloner now ventured to take a more suitable house, which, like his former abode, was in the neighbourhood of Ellesmere. This house bore the very appropriate name of Birchall or Birch Hall,<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Chaloner carried away with him from Shrewsbury the school register, and from his notes and memoranda on its blank pages the various details of his life and adventures during these eighteen years are gathered.

<sup>2</sup> Gough mentions Birch Hall in his *History of Middle*.

which the new tenant was pleased to latinise as *Ædes Betulienses*. At Birch Hall Chaloner opened school on April 6th, 1646, comparing himself on the occasion to Dionysius, "*Syracusis exulans Corinthi tyrannidem molior.*" His work began under sad circumstances. Two days after the school was opened he lost his little daughter Mary, the second whom he had christened by that name. But the school rapidly attained respectable numbers. Probably most of his Ryton<sup>1</sup> pupils accompanied Chaloner to Birch Hall. Others rapidly followed, and before long his school attained respectable numbers. Sir Thomas Wolrych, of Dudmaston, sent five of his sons to Birch Hall, two of whom had previously been at school at Shrewsbury. Three sons of Lord Kilmorey and one of Sir Richard Lee were also there, and in five months Chaloner had entered ninety-eight boys. The names of Kynaston, Bromhall, Bostock, Hanmer, Middleton, and Berkeley are all found in the Birch Hall register, and the school bills of two boys named Pope, the contents of which are of some little interest as showing current prices, are among Chaloner's memoranda. Ovid's *Epistles*, it seems, cost 1s. 6d.; Tully's *Offices*, 1s. 2d., and a grammar, 1s.; while the boys had to pay from 1s. 4d. to 2s. for shoes, from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. for stockings, and 3d. for a pair of gloves. Coined money was probably scarce in Shropshire at this time, for we find boys' school fees occasionally paid in *malt*. But Chaloner's scholastic career at Birch Hall, though prosperous, was only prolonged for a few months. At the beginning of February, 164<sup>6</sup>/<sub>7</sub>, Sir John Corbet, Bart., of Adderley, one of the members of Parliament for Shropshire, appointed him to the head-mastership of Market Drayton Grammar School, and, at the same time, procured for him from Parliament a dispensation which would allow him to hold the position. Chaloner began work at Drayton with apparently excellent prospects of success. His reputation as a teacher, the number of boys who followed him from Birch

<sup>1</sup> Collins states the number of *Ryton* boys who followed Chaloner to Birch Hall to have been forty-four. But there is nothing in Chaloner's diary or lists to show what the number really was. As a matter of fact only two of the Birch Hall boys are definitely stated to have been at Ryton.

Hall to Market Drayton, and his superiority in point of energy and industry to his predecessors, gave rise at once to a general expectation that under his management the "faded glories of the school" would be revived. Unfortunately, however, there were, as Chaloner tells us, two great difficulties in his way. The first of these was pecuniary. Though quite unable to afford it he was obliged to pay £10 to Mr. Cudworth, the retiring Head Master. But the other difficulty was of a far more serious character. Twenty days' work had hardly been accomplished at Drayton when "that most accursed Committee of Delegates for Shropshire,"<sup>1</sup> to use poor Chaloner's indignant language, deprived him of his mastership. Many influential friends interceded for him, but in vain. The Committee continued "implacable and inexorable," and Chaloner was compelled to obey their "tyrannical mandate" and go. But "divine clemency," as he gratefully acknowledges, did not desert him.

Almost immediately after his ejection from Market Drayton he was offered the head-mastership of Hawarden School in Flintshire. Thither he plodded in the last days of February, or the beginning of March, in unusually severe weather for the time of year, "*per nives, per bene longum iter*," accompanied by a little band of twelve pupils, who would not desert him. Two of them were his sons, John and David. His eldest son, Thomas, had started for Cambridge on September 22nd, 1646, while Chaloner was still at Birch Hall. By March 19th, 164<sup>6</sup>, he was well at work in his new home at Hawarden, though at first he was by no means contented with his position. The boys with whom he had to deal were for the most part of a lower class than those to whom he had hitherto been accustomed, and he complains that he was obliged to teach them the very rudiments of English.<sup>2</sup> But, as usual, Chaloner's fame rapidly spread abroad, and in a short time gentlemen's sons came in considerable numbers to Hawarden

<sup>1</sup> "The Committee for Scandalous and Plundered Ministers."

<sup>2</sup> "*Magna illic puerorum infimæ sortis multitudo, qui prima vernaculæ linguæ rudimenta discebant, ingrati mihi creabant molestiam.*"



School.<sup>1</sup> In three months' time he had entered 150 boys, and he speaks in warm terms of his pupils' abilities, as well as of their affection for him.<sup>2</sup> To illustrate their powers he mentions a performance they gave of Plautus's comedy of *The Captives*, and alludes to the verse-contests into which they entered with the boys of the neighbouring school of Chester. But a more terrible enemy than "the Committee of Delegates" was at hand. The Plague came to Hawarden. The school was at once broken up, and on June 28th, 1647, the boys set off homewards.<sup>3</sup> Whether or not this step was taken soon enough to save the rest does not appear; but one boy, at any rate, went home only to die. His name was William Barlow.<sup>4</sup> He had taken a prominent part in the representation of *The Captives*, and is described by Chaloner as a boy of extraordinary ability. Once again was our unlucky schoolmaster obliged to break ground in a new place, and he seems to have lost but little time in effecting his migration, for early in July we find him beginning work at Overton, another Flintshire town. Twenty-two of his Hawarden boys, most of whom had been at Birch Hall as well, soon made their way to Overton, and by the following February Chaloner was able to make out a class-list of fifty-eight boys, ten of whom boarded in his own house. But he appears to have regarded Overton merely as a stop-gap, having set his heart on the head-mastership of Wrexham Grammar School. Consequently he was both disappointed and indignant when he failed to obtain the post. Someone of influence, probably the Major-General of the district, appears to have promised support which he failed to give. Chaloner describes himself as having been "taken in by the fair speeches of the accursed M——,"<sup>5</sup>

The Wrexham electors too, who rejected him, do not

<sup>1</sup> "Magna generosiorum quoque multitudo statim illuc confluit."

<sup>2</sup> "Nusquam aut doctiores aut mei amantiores discipulos sensi."

<sup>3</sup> Fifty-seven of the Hawarden boys are registered as *extranei*.

<sup>4</sup> Chaloner gives the names of twenty-two boys, of whom William Barlow was one, who, with about 130 others, left Hawarden at this time "pro timore pestis."

<sup>5</sup> "Deceptus blandiloquentiâ τοῦ καταράτου Μ."

escape scot-free. He stigmatises them as *Cobblers*.<sup>1</sup> It is to be feared that Chaloner's temper was not improving. But he had domestic troubles to worry him at the time as well as those from without. Mrs. Chaloner did not get on with an assistant master of her husband's, named David Peirce, and, to make matters worse, Chaloner thought his wife in the wrong.<sup>2</sup> In the end Peirce had to go, and Chaloner generously paid his expenses for some time at Cambridge, hoping, as he says, "*amicas ἀμοιβᾶς*." It was on Michaelmas-day, 1648, that David Peirce set off for Cambridge, and Chaloner's own stay at Overton lasted very little longer. His last entry is dated October 20th, 1648, and in the following February we find him setting to work again in the neighbourhood of Stone in Staffordshire.

The Overton school-keeping had lasted just nineteen months, during which time Chaloner would appear from his register to have had ninety-six pupils, of whom thirty-four boarded in his house. But it is probable that he really had many more boys to teach than this while he was at Overton, for he speaks in his diary of "the incredible multitude of gentlemen's sons" who came to him there,<sup>3</sup> and it is plain that his entries were written down in a very irregular fashion. These constant changes and troubles did not prevent Chaloner from making a new beginning at Stone in high spirits. His register opens with a pun.<sup>4</sup> Thirty-seven boys were entered on February 6th, the first school-day; and in less than a month Chaloner had sixty names on his lists. By June 28th, 1650, this number was increased to 154. And the names of many of the boys sound familiarly in our ears. Cottons, from Combermere, Wolryches, from Dudmaston, Leightons, Bromhalls, Dods, Eytons, Whitmores, Bagnalls, Herberts, Lutwiches, Vernons, Duttons, Salisburys, Vaughans, and Breretons are all to be found among them. But, somehow

<sup>1</sup> "*Repudiatus a sutoribus Wrexamiensibus*."

<sup>2</sup> "*Hypodidasculum Davidem Peirce quem nimium iniquiter ab uxore meâ tractatum misi ad Cantabrigiam, ibique pro tempore meis sumptibus alo, sperans amicas ἀμοιβᾶς*."

<sup>3</sup> "*Ad locum incredibilis generosorum confluit multitudo*."

<sup>4</sup> "*Feb. 6. Deo favente auspicamur παιδαγωγῶν ἐν τῇ ζωνᾷ*."

or other, Chaloner got discontented with his life at Stone;<sup>1</sup> and soon after June, 1650, he gave up school work altogether, and engaged himself as domestic tutor in the family of Sir John Puleston, of Emrall, one of whose sons appears to have been at school under him, both at Overton and Stone. Here he continued three years, and they do not seem to have been happy years. His pupils he describes as "boys of very small ability." Then he did not like the subordinate position which he held; he had been so long a ruler that any form of servitude had become utterly distasteful to him. His thoughts naturally turned much at this time to the old, happy days at Shrewsbury, to the friends with whom he had so long been on intimate terms, and to the pleasant companions whom he used to meet at "the Sextry." It was while living at Emrall that Chaloner penned those lists of his old friends, of which mention has been made on earlier pages. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that, when the head-mastership of Ruthin School was offered him in August, 1653, he gladly welcomed the prospect of a return to the more independent position of a schoolmaster. But his mind was a little troubled by the laughing comments of his enemies, as well as by the friendly hints of those more favourably disposed towards him, that these frequent changes of his betokened a roving disposition. His friends, he tells us, were beginning to speak of him as "*lapis mobilis, cui nullus adhæreat muscus*." His customary buoyant spirits, however, had quite returned when he entered on his new career on August 19th, 1653, at Ruthin. He makes jocular notes on the names of the boys as he enters them on his list, bracketing together three brothers as "a three-branched Green," occasionally entering a boy as a "Petty," a name, by-the-by, which used to be given, and probably is still given, to boys in the lowest form at Charterhouse, and describing a Lloyd of Fenecke as "one more country boor." In one place he records with evident satisfaction that some boys had brought him a gold Jacobus, and others a "Charles on horseback,"

<sup>1</sup> His wife seems to have died about this time, and her loss had probably something to do with his change of life.



and elsewhere he calls a boy "Charles's Horseman," no doubt because his entrance fee was paid with a crown of Charles the First. His neighbours, too, he found friendly and hospitable; perhaps they were too hospitable, for in Chaloner's diary<sup>1</sup> for January, 165 $\frac{3}{4}$ , there is a somewhat suggestive entry for a certain Tuesday, "*Repetita potatio, renovata pœnitentia.*" And alas! the very next day we read, "*Plas-y-Ward convivabar; etsi sobrius, tamen ægriuscule.*" Persecutions and disappointments, domestic troubles and an unsettled life had, it is to be feared, caused his convivial tastes to develope into something like habits of excess. We will hope, at any rate, that Edward Thelwall, the eldest son of the squire of Plas-y-Ward, who was one of Chaloner's boys at Ruthin, was not at home during his master's visits.

About this time Chaloner's mind was seriously disturbed by family troubles. His daughter Muriel had become acquainted with a man named John Lloyd, whom Chaloner describes as a *παρασήμος*, by which, we may suppose, he means an adventurer, and the father had to go off suddenly, two days after his convivial entertainment at Plas-y-Ward, to Wrexham, where the girl and her sister were staying, in order to prevent a hasty marriage, or, at least, a betrothal. His son Sam also had got into debt, and this was a source of worry to him nearly all the time he lived at Ruthin. But the school flourished; and, during the three years of Chaloner's mastership, he entered no less than 245 boys. One might have hoped that here at last our wandering schoolmaster would be left in peace. But this was not to be. In the early part of November, 1655, the Lord Protector issued an edict, prohibiting, under heavy penalties,

<sup>1</sup> Chaloner's self-analysing little diary, which is here quoted, only lasts for a week. The entries run thus:—

1. Sabbatum afflictōn to be chosen rather than sin.
2. Non est intelligens, non est, qui deum quærit.
3. Repetita potatio, renovata pœnitentia.
4. Plas-y-Ward convivabar; etsi sobrius, tñ ægriuscule.
5. Nonnihil legi, oravi, meditatus sum.
6. Anxius ne Muriel se perditū iret, Wrexham jam profectus, illinc eam cñ sorore abduxi mœrens, ne forte, me inscio, hōi sese *παρασήμος* desponsaret.
7. Initinere domū versus, in salutandis amicis abyt hic dies.



any preacher, schoolmaster, or fellow of a college, who had at any time aided the Royal cause by fighting, or preaching, or in any other way, and had in consequence been ejected from his office, from ever hereafter discharging similar duties.

The Major-General of the North Wales district, instigated thereto by the spiteful whispers of Chaloner's enemies at Wrexham, proceeded to set the edict in force against him, and no entries are to be found in the Ruthin register between October 8th, 1655, and March 1st, 1658. At this time, sad to relate, Muriel Chaloner was married to John Lloyd, the *Parasemus*. Not that her father had altered his mind as to the character of the man. He speaks of his unacceptable son-in-law as silly<sup>1</sup> and worthless,<sup>2</sup> and adds that he was £50 in debt at the time of his marriage. Nothing but the pecuniary straits to which he was reduced by his suspension from his Ruthin mastership would have induced Chaloner to allow the marriage. So he tells us in his diary; but still he managed to give his daughter £120 as her dowry, though the gift was of little use; for in six months all the money, to Chaloner's bitter indignation, had vanished, without leaving his *futile* son-in-law a single farthing to buy himself "the halter which his vices deserved." In the meantime poor Chaloner had got into further trouble with the puritan authorities, in consequence of some rash expressions of which he made use in a funeral sermon. He confesses that he had been imprudent in the matter; and doubtless his sarcasm must have been somewhat biting to those of his puritan neighbours who were able to understand it.

Chaloner's dead friend seems to have refused to subscribe the covenant, and Chaloner argued in his sermon that he ought not altogether to be condemned on that account, seeing that noisy disputes should never be allowed to arise about things accessory or indifferent so long as faith in matters fundamental were retained. He then went on to tell a story about James I., intended to illustrate the honesty of his friend's line of conduct. One day, in a facetious

<sup>1</sup> Vecors.

<sup>2</sup> Futilis.

humour, the King declared that he saw a star in the heavens, it being broad daylight at the time.

Shortly afterwards one of his courtiers, who was standing near, moved by the continued assertions of the King, declared that he also saw the star. "See, there it is," he said, "how brightly it shines!" Others then joined in, and declared that they also could see the star. But there was one bystander who did not scruple to deny that the star was visible to him. "I have," he said, "no such far-seeing eyes; I see no star." "Sayest thou so?" answered the King. "Thou art an honest and a truthful man, but these others are ready to affirm or deny anything to win favour."

Then the preacher went on to apply his story. "I do not deny, for my part, that a new reformation star has risen in our ecclesiastical hemisphere. But if anyone from blindness or dimness of sight should fail to see this star, and should ingenuously acknowledge that he could not see it, he would be, in my opinion, a far honester man than those time-servers who, in full sail for promotion, exclaim impudently enough, 'The star, the star!' when perhaps they can see nothing of the kind."

A journey to London, and an interview with the Lord Protector, led to the Ruthin question being left entirely to the discretion of the Major-General of the district. Uncertain as to what might ultimately be his fate, his mind swayed alternately by hopes and fears, Chaloner set off homeward, and had nearly reached Whitchurch, in Shropshire, when an accident happened to him, which he describes in an amusing way.

His mare stumbled, and having thrown him in the mud, fell with her whole weight upon the lower part of his body. He was able, he says, "to cry aloud and bewail his sins," but not to free himself "from the jaws of so imminent a death," and it would have been all over with him had not a maidservant opportunely come to his aid. How she helped him he does not mention, but the danger from which he escaped was (in his own mind at least) considerable; for he notes in his diary that his "daily thanks are

due to God his Saviour, especially at half-past nine o'clock on Sunday," the time at which the accident seems to have happened. Without further misadventure Chaloner reached home, and the Major-General, apparently, being gracious, reassembled his scholars and resumed work at Ruthin.

But another change was at hand. Mr. William Adams, citizen and haberdasher of London, had recently founded a Grammar School at Newport in Shropshire, and wished Chaloner to be its first Head Master. Cromwell's assent to the arrangement was obtained by the intercession of Mr. Thomas Gilbert,<sup>1</sup> Rector of Edgmond, an assistant Commissioner for the "ejection of scandalous ministers and schoolmasters," and a man of great influence at the time in ecclesiastical matters. From Chaloner's diary it appears that he started from Ruthin for Newport on July 24th, 1656, intending to return on the 26th, and, as no further entries occur in his Ruthin register after this date, we may assume that it marks approximately the time of his appointment.

But it was not till January 7th, 1658, that Newport School was formally opened. In the meantime Chaloner had been in great pecuniary difficulties. His children were nearly all grown up, but they were still for the most part dependent on him, and he found great difficulty in providing them even with the necessaries of life. He had paid off his son Sam's debts on October 11th, 1654; but fresh debts had been incurred before the family left Ruthin. Another son, David,<sup>2</sup> for whom a post had been obtained in London, after holding it only for a year, had recently returned home "with a bad grace," and with no fruit to show for the £20 which he had expended. In these money difficulties Chaloner's thoughts

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Gilbert was a son of Mr. William Gilbert, of Prees, in Shropshire. He matriculated at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, November 13th, 1629, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged sixteen. B.A., 1623; M.A., 1638; B.D., 1648; Chaplain of Magdalen College, 1656-60; Vicar of St. Lawrence, Reading, 1647-50; Rector of Edgmond, 1649; ejected, 1662. (FOSTER'S *Alumni Oxon.*)

<sup>2</sup> David Chaloner was baptised at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, March 15th, 1638, and was at school under his father at Hawarden, Overton, Stone, and Newport. After giving him two years more schooling his father sent him to Jesus College, Cambridge, where he was admitted sizar June 7th, 1658.



turned to his old assistant at Overton, David Peirce, with whom Mrs. Chaloner had quarrelled, and to whom he had generously advanced money for his support at Cambridge. Peirce had subsequently obtained employment in another school, and Chaloner hoped that he might be able to repay a portion of the sum which he had advanced to him. But, on inquiry, it turned out that Peirce had become subject to attacks of "melancholia," and was likely in consequence to lose his mastership, his sole means of subsistence. So no help was to be looked for from that quarter. And when the new school at Newport was opened prosperity did not come to it all at once. Forty-five boys, it is true, had followed their old master from Ruthin; but new pupils were slow to appear, and some sixteen months seem to have elapsed before the school could be said to have firmly established its reputation. By that time the numbers had sufficiently increased to justify the appointment of a second master; and the post was offered by Mr. Adams to the Head Master's eldest son Thomas, who had graduated at Cambridge some years before, and had been for three years Head Master of a school near Malpas, in Cheshire, probably Nantwich.<sup>1</sup>

A Newport school list, dated June 26th, 1658, and containing as many as 242 names, has been preserved. It is in the handwriting of the younger Chaloner, who has prefixed to it a brief account of his own appointment to the second-mastership, in which account his father and chief is spoken of in a somewhat patronizing fashion. In December of the same year Chaloner sent two complimentary addresses in Latin verse to Mr. William Dugard, Head Master of Merchant Tailors' School, who had recently published a Lexicon of the Greek Testament for the use of schoolboys. Both addresses are given in an edition of the book printed in 1660. Whatever may be their poetic merits in the eyes of modern

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Chaloner, jun., describes the school of which he had been master for three years as *Schola Vico-Malbanensis*. This school was probably Nantwich, as boys from Nantwich School, admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1656 and 1659, are said to have been educated under Mr. Chaloner.



Salopians, they are worth preserving as illustrations of the kindly humour of their author.

## I.

“Pllostello innixus, paulatim, parvulus infans  
 Assuescit teneris terram contingere plantis,  
 Brachiaque adstantis fastidit nota puellæ :  
 Illa videns, ridensque simul, mihi gratulor, inquit,  
 Tædia defessis tandem excussisse lacertis,  
 Canitiem septena mihi jam lustra tulerunt  
 Dictanti pueris linguæ primordia Græcæ.  
 Ah quoties duri post tædia longa laboris  
 Hora fatigatum dimisit quinta Magistrum.  
 Tu plaustrum, Dugarde, scholis puerile parâsti,  
 Cui tarda innitens Tironum infantia, post hac  
 Figere sponte suâ gressus, et poplite moto  
 Alternare pedes per Græca volumina possit  
 Neglectus gaudetque tuens meditamina Doctor,  
 Ergo tibi grates debemus, quotquot ubivis  
 Ingenuam facile pubem moderamur habenâ :  
 Nemo magis, quam cujus adhuc vexata procellis  
 Innumeris, perpessa minas cælique marisque,  
 Tandem tuta, *Novo* consedit cymbula *Portu*.”

## II.

“Invitâ quotquot lucem videre Minervâ  
 Et piper et scombros plurima scripta timent.  
 At tua in æternos industria parturit usus  
 Quantum vis seræ posteritatis opus.  
 Cui frustrâ quisquam curas adhibere secundas  
 Spondeat, aut plagio, vendicet ista suo  
 Hinc præceptorî repetendæ nausea crambes  
 Tollitur ; hinc stimulum Tiro laboris habet.  
 Augmina quam celeri mihi parvus crescat alumnus  
 Cui sic præmansos indis in ora cibos.”

Here, in this *New Port* of which Chaloner speaks, which was not destined, however, to be his final haven of rest, we must leave him for a time, while we return to Shrewsbury School, which had remained meanwhile in the charge of Mr. Pigott, the gentleman whom the puritan authorities had, with a calm indifference to the school ordinances, appointed Head Master after Chaloner's expulsion.



1  
 Prospect of the Castle  
 and Schools of  
 SHREWSBURY  
 per Geo. Smalford



FROM THE HERALD COLLEGE. 1658

THE CASTLE AND SCHOOLS

FROM THE HERALDS' COLLEGE 1658

## CHAPTER VIII.

Richard Pigott, 1646-1662.

RICHARD PIGOTT was a native of Northwich in Cheshire,<sup>1</sup> and was probably brought up as a boy at the Grammar School in that town. But all we know for certain about his education is that he matriculated as a member of Christ's College, Cambridge,<sup>2</sup> in July, 1614, and graduated B.A. in 1618 and M.A. in 1621. There is no doubt that Mr. Pigott was residing in Northwich in 1640, for his son Richard, who was admitted pensioner of St. John's, Cambridge, on May 21st, 1657, at the age of sixteen, is described in the college register as "of Northwich." And we may safely conclude that for many years, and indeed up to the time of his appointment to Shrewsbury, he filled the office of Head Master of Northwich Grammar School, for we find in the admission register of St. John's College, Cambridge, the names of several students who were admitted in the years 1634, 1638, 1639, and 1642 who are described as educated under Mr. Pigott at Northwich. On the other hand, not only does his name disappear from the register as connected with Northwich after 1642, but we learn from the same authority that a few years later one Mr. Hulme had become Head Master.

For once Mr. Leonard Hotchkis has made a slip in telling us that Richard Pigott was Head Master of Newport before going to Shrewsbury.<sup>3</sup> As a matter of fact, Newport

<sup>1</sup> See *Joseph Morris MSS.* in the possession of Cresswell Peele, Esq., of Shrewsbury. Mr. Morris says that the father's name was also Richard.

<sup>2</sup> Calamy speaks of Richard Pigott, the Head Master, as M.A. of Christ's College.

<sup>3</sup> Hotchkis's mistake was copied by Blakeway, and has since been repeated by Mr. Collins, by Mr. Edward Jones in an interesting account of Newport printed in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society*, and by the editors of ADNITT and NAUNTON'S *History of Shrewsbury School*.



Grammar School was not founded till 1656, when Thomas Chaloner became its first Head Master. Phillips, in his *History of Shrewsbury*, gives Pigott the prefix of Rev. But it is very doubtful whether he was in holy orders. He is described in the school account-book as *Generosus*, a description which, though not absolutely conclusive, is certainly antagonistic to the notion that he was an ordained clergyman of the Church of England. It is true that the Corporation, which, under puritan influences, illegally made Richard Pigott Head Master, gave him also the appellation and stipend of catechist, an office previously held by none but clergymen of the English Church. But this, in those days of puritan ascendancy, proves nothing. Some time elapsed after the capture of Shrewsbury on February 22nd, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ , before Pigott was made Head Master, or, at any rate, before he was able to commence work. But the school had been again reopened by November 17th, 1645, and in the course of the following year fifty-two names were entered in the register of admissions.

Very little money, however, was forthcoming in that year for the payment of masters. Their united stipends amounted to £37. No mention is made of the exact time when Pigott commenced his work as Head Master, but as the charge of 20s. for the customary banquet<sup>1</sup> on his admission appears in the school accounts for the year from November 16th, 1646, he was probably admitted some time subsequent to that date.

At any rate, the first appearance of his name as Head Master and catechist occurs in this year's accounts. Robert Forster,<sup>1</sup> the School Bailiff, appears to have been dismissed when the puritans gained possession of the town, and his place was taken by Richard Griffith. It is probable that

<sup>1</sup> Robert Forster, a bookseller of Shrewsbury, was appointed School Bailiff after the resignation of George Phillips on April 10th, 1635, on account of blindness. The name of Robert Forster again occurs as School Bailiff after the Restoration. He was doubtless the son of the former Bailiff. He is described as a draper, and is also called junior in the school account-book. Robert Forster, the bookseller, was elected Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1661 and 1677. He had been nominated a member of the Common Council in the Charter of 1638.

his connection with Shrewsbury by marriage<sup>1</sup> led to Mr. Pigott's election by the Corporation. As he was neither born in Shrewsbury, nor educated at the school, his appointment was in direct contravention of the school ordinances in almost every particular. But Pigott's contemporaries speak favourably of him. He was well known to Richard Baxter, who calls him "my old friend." Calamy describes him as "an able, prudent, and religious man," and, according to Mr. Tallents,<sup>2</sup> the curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, Mr. Pigott "much improved Shrewsbury School in every way while he was Head Master." We must remember, however, that Mr. Tallents's sympathies were strongly with the puritan party in the town, and that he cannot be regarded as altogether an unbiassed witness in the matter. However this may be, there is no doubt that during the sixteen years of Pigott's head-mastership many circumstances combined to hinder the prosperity of Shrewsbury School. In the first place, most of the gentlemen residing in Shropshire and the neighbouring counties were staunch loyalists, and not unnaturally preferred sending their boys to Chaloner, or to the nearest Grammar School, to allowing them to be educated at Shrewsbury under the existing *régime*.

Then too in Shrewsbury itself there were churchmen and loyalists enough to make it worth while for a gentleman named Scofield to establish a private school there in rivalry of the Grammar School, which was now, as Wood puts it, "under the Government of the Saints."<sup>3</sup> Mr. Scofield's school was probably in existence as early as 1650, and it

<sup>1</sup> Mr. J. Morris says that Richard Pigott married a daughter of Mr. Thomas Cheshire of Shrewsbury, glover.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Francis Tallents, M.A., of Magdalene College, Cambridge, who had travelled much on the Continent, and had somewhere or other obtained Presbyterian orders, was appointed by the Corporation, on January 4th, 1653, curate of St. Mary's. Both Richard Baxter and the Head Master urged him strongly to accept the cure. He remained in charge of the parish till September 1st, 1662, when he was deprived under the operation of the Act of Uniformity. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> See the Life of Corbet Owen in WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.* Corbet Owen was a son of the Rev. William Owen, of Pontesbury, and was born at Hinton in 1646. In May, 1658, he entered Westminster School, from whence he proceeded to Christ Church, Oxford.

appears to have been kept up most of Pigott's time.<sup>1</sup> But in spite of these difficulties Shrewsbury School continued to be fairly well filled. In the sixteen years of Pigott's mastership the average number of annual entries was seventy-four, and in the year beginning November 17th, 1652, as many as 102 boys were entered.

Sometime during the month of August, 1650, the masters and boys had to migrate to Grinshill<sup>2</sup> on account of the plague which was then raging in Shrewsbury, and which did not come to an end till the middle of January, 1654. As many as 250 people are said to have died during the prevalence of this sickness in the parish of St. Chad alone.<sup>3</sup> "The schools" were dissolved by order of Council on August 9th, 1650.<sup>4</sup>

The best testimony perhaps to Pigott's fitness for his post is the fact that David Evans, Chaloner's old friend and colleague, continued to fill the second master's place after Chaloner had left until his death in 1658.

"Black David" was a Welshman by birth, and had been educated as a boy at Shrewsbury School, subsequently proceeding to Jesus College, Cambridge, where he was admitted as a sizar on September 8th, 1623. He graduated B.A. in 1626, and was appointed third master on November 19th, 1627.<sup>5</sup> If his age at the time of his death is correctly given

<sup>1</sup> Corbet Owen is not likely to have gone to Mr. Scofield's school much before 1652.

<sup>2</sup> Gough mentions in his *History of Middle* that the school migrated to Grinshill in 1650, but makes the mistake of saying that the migration occurred in Chaloner's time.

<sup>3</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY. It made its first appearance in the town on June 12th.

<sup>4</sup> The order is given by Owen and Blakeway. "You are also forthwith to dissolve both the schools in your towne, and see that they continue soe till it shall please God the infection shall cease. "JO. BRADSHAW, P.

"WHITEHALL, 9th August, 1650."

The second school to which this order refers may be the accident school, which was generally treated separately from the higher schools; but it is more probable that it was the school kept by Mr. Scofield.

<sup>5</sup> The college letter to the Bailiffs of November 19th, 1627, describes David Evans as educated at Shrewsbury, and a B.A. of Jesus College. His name is entered in his college register as from Wales.



on his grave-stone, Evans must have been born in 1597. He must then have been about twenty-six years old when he went up to Cambridge, and had probably been engaged during the interval which had elapsed since he left school in educational work. There is some difficulty in tracing his entry in the school register, as the name of David Evans occurs no less than seven times between 1603 and 1619; but it is probable that he entered Shrewsbury School either in 1605 or in 1609.<sup>1</sup>

During the interregnum which occurred between Mr. Harding's departure about June, 1636, and Chaloner's appointment in February, 1637, Evans acted temporarily as Head Master. On Gittins's resignation in September, 1638, he was promoted to the second-mastership,<sup>2</sup> and he continued in that office till his death. Once again, while he was at Shrewsbury, David Evans had to take charge of the school as Head Master. This was after Chaloner had been expelled and before Pigott was ready to begin work. That he was able to work successfully and harmoniously with head masters so opposed both in church and state politics as Chaloner and Pigott is a striking proof of his amiability of temperament and conciliatory disposition.

Of his "ability of learning" and "conversacon of life" the language used by the authorities of St. John's College in 1627 is ample testimony. And lastly, we have the epitaph on his grave-stone in St. Mary's Church, in all probability written by Chaloner, which reflects, not only the affectionate regard in which "Black David" was held by those who knew him best, but the high estimate his

<sup>1</sup> Three of these school entries may be eliminated at once. In 1607 Evans was only ten years old, and cannot have been placed in the highest school. The 1619 entry cannot be his, as he was then twenty-two years old, and it is highly improbable that he entered school in 1615 at the age of eighteen. In 1611, again, David Evans was fourteen, and a boy of that age would be unusually backward to be placed in the third school. In 1603, at the age of six, he would be more likely to be placed in the accidence school than in the third school.

<sup>2</sup> The formal deed, executed by Chaloner and the Bailiffs, promoting David Evans to the second-mastership, is preserved in the school account-book.



colleagues had formed of his powers as a teacher of grammar.<sup>1</sup>

David Evans was succeeded in the second-mastership by Mr. Edward Cotton,<sup>2</sup> a native of Shrewsbury, who was entered at school in January, 162 $\frac{3}{4}$ . After graduating at Oxford—B.A. in 1635, and M.A. in 1639—he was made a fellow of University College. On March 17th, 165 $\frac{3}{8}$ , he was admitted pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, the college having probably made his migration a condition of his election to the second-mastership, and eight months afterwards, on December 2nd, 1659, he was appointed to fill Evans's place.

Mr. Robert Ogden, who held the third-mastership in Chaloner's time, was succeeded in 1649, according to Hotchkis, by Mr. Harrison.<sup>3</sup> His successor, the Rev. Isaac Solden,<sup>4</sup> appears in Hotchkis's list of masters as having been appointed in 1657. But we learn from the register of benefactors to the school library that he was third master in 1654; and Phillips puts his appointment as early as 1651.

Mr. Hugh Spurstow, who was the fourth master for nearly thirty years, died on October 19th, 1636,<sup>5</sup> and was succeeded by Mr. Ralph Jackson. The Rev. Peter Lloyd, who was certainly fourth master in 1647,<sup>6</sup> probably held the post

<sup>1</sup> David Evans died May 26th, 1658, aged 61. His epitaph, as given by Owen and Blakeway, is as follows:—

“Caveto, sis puer : prope est David niger,  
Notandus olim literis rubris senex.  
Is Priscianus temporis sui inclitus :  
Nescis adhuc ? Abito ! nescis literas.”

The humour of this epitaph suggests at once the hand of Chaloner.

<sup>2</sup> *Edward Cotton*, son of Mr. Richard Cotton, of Shrewsbury, matriculated at University College, Oxford, on April 27th, 1632, as pleb. fil. of Salop, aged seventeen.

<sup>3</sup> Phillips describes Mr. Harrison as a clergyman.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Solden held office till 1658, when he seems to have become Vicar of Albrightlee, Salop. Robert Solden, his son, who was admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on March 1st, 168 $\frac{3}{8}$ , is described in the college register as son of the Rev. Isaac Solden, clerk, and as born at Albrightlee, Salop, in 1664.

<sup>5</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>6</sup> On March 21st, 1647, John Lloyd, son of Rev. Peter Lloyd, schoolmaster of the Free School, was baptised at St. Chad's. (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

from the time of Mr. Jackson's resignation in 1643. He, in turn, was succeeded in 1649 by Mr. Franklin,<sup>1</sup> who can only have retained his office for a very short time, as Mr. Robert Goddard's name appears in the school accounts for 1652; and, if Hotchkis be correct, he became fourth master in 1650. Neither Solden nor Goddard seem to have been educated at Shrewsbury. We learn from the school register that Mr. Godheard (*sic*) was still accident master in 1662. But Mr. Solden had resigned three years before, and Mr. John Taylor, B.A., had been nominated by the college as third master on December 2nd, 1659. He was an Oxford man, but had been admitted, Hotchkis says, a pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, on January 8th, 1658, being then a candidate for the third-mastership.

If this be correct the post must have remained vacant nearly a year.<sup>2</sup> It is not unlikely that Mr. Solden resigned the third-mastership from disappointment at not being promoted when David Evans died in May, 1658. We learn from a Corporation order that a music master was appointed in 1651 to maintain a musical exercise in the school gallery. The complete disregard shown by the Corporation of Shrewsbury for the school ordinances in the matter of the appointment of masters after the town came under puritan domination was not calculated to promote the easy settle-

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> *Mr. John Taylor* was son of Mr. Michael Taylor, of Middleton, Lancashire. He was admitted at Brasenose College, Oxford, on March 9th, 1648, and remained at Oxford three years, more or less. When he migrated to Cambridge he was already twenty-eight years old. Blakeway's statement that he was the son of Mr. Andrew Taylor, of Rodington, seems to have been founded on the fact that one of his own sons was named Andrew. His first wife, Mrs. Phoebe Taylor, died in January, 1660, in childbirth. On February 1st, 1663, he married Mrs. Stapleton at St. Mary's Church. Richard Taylor, one of his sons by his first marriage, matriculated at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, on September 16th, 1672. His father is described in the Oxford register as "of Salop, Priest." Two sons of the second marriage were baptised at St. Mary's—John, on October 11th, 1670; and Michael, on June 19th, 1672. John became a barber surgeon in Shrewsbury, and was the father of the well-known scholar who was commonly called by his contemporaries "Demosthenes Taylor." The new third master was a benefactor to the school library in 1661. In the school accounts for 1663-64 an entry appears of the payment of £5 to Mr. John Taylor, gentleman, for "teaching poor scholars to write," and a similar payment is recorded in the following year.

ment of other business transactions between the school trustees and St. John's College, and a dispute on the subject of the two Shrewsbury scholarships, founded at the college in 1624, seems to have gone on for some years in Pigott's time before its final settlement in 1656, when articles of agreement were drawn up, on September 27th, between the Corporation, the college, and Mr. Pigott, the Head Master. In these articles the statutable qualifications, under the ordinances, were recited, and two new stipulations were added. It was agreed that the scholar must have been at Shrewsbury for three years at least, and "of the first bench in the highest school by the space of one whole year at least."<sup>1</sup> The school trustees had another controversy in Pigott's time, but this was with the inhabitants of Astley, in Shropshire, and not with the college. As long before as 1607-8 the Astley people had claimed the right to elect their own curate. On this occasion the school authorities agreed to a compromise under which the inhabitants of Astley were to recommend a clergyman for the cure. But they disagreed among themselves, some being in favour of the Rev. George Adeney, M.A.,<sup>2</sup> while the majority supported the Rev. Henry Humffres, who had been taking the parochial duties. The trustees ultimately selected Mr. Adeney. Sometime in the year 1653-54 the same claim was revived on the resignation of the Rev. Richard Allen, and a case was submitted to Humphrey Mackworth, Esq., the Recorder, who decided in favour of the school trustees.<sup>3</sup> Although the school register during Pigott's time possesses nothing like the interest attached to it in

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.* and BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*. Difficulties about the scholarships had arisen as early as 1649. Writing in that year, on July 30th, the Mayor, in answer to complaints made by the college authorities, that the annual payment due from the school for the two scholarships was six years and a half in arrear, replied that there had been a deficiency of available funds; but he mentioned at the same time that he did not see why the school trustees should pay the money if the college did not elect the scholars they recommended.

<sup>2</sup> *George Adeney* was a son of Mr. William Adeney, of Moreton Corbet, and was baptised there July 25th, 1595.

<sup>3</sup> See school account-book and *Hotchkiss MSS.*



previous years, there are several of his pupils whose names should not be passed over without mention, and some whose after career was distinguished.

"Speaker Williams," as he was commonly called, the eldest son of the Rev. Hugh Williams, D.D., Rector of Llantrisant, Anglesey, entered Shrewsbury School in 1648 at the age of fourteen. After graduating at Jesus College, Oxford, in 1652, he went to the Bar, and in 1667 was made Recorder of Chester. He was elected to represent that city in the House of Commons on June 14th, 1675, and subsequently sat as its representative in the Parliaments of 1678, 1679, 1680, and 1681. In 1685 he was M.P. for the borough of Montgomery. Twice during this time he was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons. It was in his official capacity as Speaker that he signed in 1680 the narrative of the impostor Dangerfield, which implicated the Duke of York and others in an alleged plot. For this act he had, a few years later, to pay a fine of £10,000, and was also deprived of his recordership.<sup>1</sup> In December, 1687, he was appointed Solicitor-General and knighted, and in the following July he was made a baronet. Sir William Williams, as Solicitor-General, took a prominent part in 1688 in the prosecution of the seven bishops. His leader, Sir Thomas Powys, the Attorney-General, was, curiously enough, like himself, an old Shrewsbury boy. Sir William Williams represented Beaumaris in the Convention Parliament and in the Parliament of 1695. Although after the Revolution a bill was on three separate occasions introduced into the House of Commons for the purpose, Sir William Williams never received any compensation for the heavy fine he had incurred for obeying the commands of the House. He died in London in July, 1700.<sup>2</sup>

Sir Henry Langley, eldest son of Jonathan Langley, Esq., of the Abbey, Shrewsbury, who is said to have been "skilled in music" and "eminent for his birth and learning," entered Shrewsbury School in 1646. In the *Catalogue of the MSS.*

<sup>1</sup> He was reappointed Recorder of Chester in 1687. (ORMEROD.)

<sup>2</sup> See FOSS's *Lives of the Judges*; BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs of Shropshire*; WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.*; ORMEROD's *Cheshire*, etc.



of *Great Britain*, 1679, fifty MSS. are credited to Sir Henry, and it has been suggested that they formed part of the old Abbey library.<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Roger Hayward was the son of Mr. John Hayward, a Shrewsbury baker. He was born in 1635, and entered school in 1646. After graduating at St. John's College, Cambridge, he took holy orders, and became in due course Vicar of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, Prebendary of Lichfield, and Chaplain to Charles II.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. James Gibbons, son of Dr. Francis Gibbons, Vicar of Holy Cross, Salop, is said to have "served faithfully three kings in civil employment."<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Thomas Burton, eldest son of Francis Burton, Esq., of Longner, Salop, after leaving Shrewsbury, became a Student of Lincoln's Inn, and was called to the Bar in 1655. After the Restoration he applied for a commissionership in the Alienation Office, representing in his petition his father's losses and sufferings on account of his loyalty. Though not successful in his application he was made a "Justice for the Great Sessions in North Wales." In January, 1674, he was elected Steward of Shrewsbury.<sup>4</sup>

Titus Thomas, who was entered at Shrewsbury School in 1647 as a native of Shropshire, and was subsequently a physician and independent minister in Shrewsbury, is spoken of by Calamy as "an ingenious and learned man." His marriage, Calamy naively adds, "to a woman of good means enabled him to be useful."

<sup>1</sup> *Henry Langley* matriculated at Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1653, but subsequently became a gentleman commoner at Wadham, where he graduated. He was knighted on February 9th, 1680. Buried at Shrewsbury November 3rd, 1688. (WOOD's *Athen. Oxon.*; OWEN and BLAKEWAY; and BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Roger Hayward* was admitted at Magdalene College, Cambridge, on May 6th, 1654. Migrated to St. John's on November 3rd, 1656. B.A., 1657; M.A., 1661; B.D., 1674. Married Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Eyton of Eyton. He died on November 14th, 1680. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> *James Gibbons* was baptised at St. Julian's, August 3rd, 1639, and was buried in the Abbey Church in 1712. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>4</sup> *Thomas Burton* was born in 1637, entered Shrewsbury School in 1646, and became a Student of Lincoln's Inn in 1651. His father garrisoned his house at Longner for the King during the Civil War. (*State Papers, Domestic, Calendar*, and OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

We also find in Pigott's lists the names of Price Devereux,<sup>1</sup> the father of the ninth Lord Hereford; of Richard Herbert,<sup>2</sup> grandfather of the first Earl of Powis; and of the sons of Bishop Griffith of St. Asaph, and of Dr. Algernon Peyton,<sup>3</sup> Rector of Doddington, Cambridgeshire.<sup>4</sup> Only two bishops can be claimed by Shrewsbury School in these days, and this claim must be made with some feelings of doubt.

Edward Jones, who was entered in 1648 as the son and heir of an esquire or gentleman, and was readmitted in 1654, may probably be identified with the eldest son of Edward Jones, Esq., of Lluynrhirid, Montgomeryshire, who was baptised at Forden, July 1st, 1641, and subsequently became fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Dean of Lismore, Bishop of Cloyne, and in 1692 Bishop of St. Asaph.

Humphrey Humphreys, who entered Shrewsbury School as an alien in 1660, was probably the eldest son of Mr. Richard Humphreys, of Penrhyndeudraeth, Merionethshire, an old cavalier and soldier of Charles I., who was born in 1648, graduated at Oxford, and became a fellow of Jesus College. In 1680 he was made Dean of Bangor, and, on the death of Bishop Lloyd, whose chaplain he had been, he succeeded him as Bishop of Bangor. In 1701 he was translated to Hereford. He died in 1708. Bishop Humphreys's name occurs in the list of benefactors to the school library, a strong ground for connecting him with the boy of his name who was educated at Shrewsbury.

<sup>1</sup> *Price Devereux* was the eldest son of George Devereux, Esq., of Vaynor, Montgomeryshire. He entered Shrewsbury School in 1652, matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, July 20th, 1654, and was admitted student of Gray's Inn on April 28th, 1658.

<sup>2</sup> *Richard Herbert*, who was entered at Shrewsbury in 1646, was the eldest son of Francis Herbert, Esq., of Dolgiog, Montgomeryshire, a strong loyalist. He married Florence Herbert, granddaughter of Lord Herbert, of Chirbury, and heiress to her two brothers, Edward and Henry, who held in succession the same title. (COLLINS' *Peerage*.)

<sup>3</sup> *Algernon Peyton*, who was created a baronet on March 21st, 1666, entered Shrewsbury in 1658. Wotton makes no mention of his brother Thomas, who was admitted at the same time.

<sup>4</sup> Sons of Sir Richard Prince, of the Whitehall, Shrewsbury, and of Sir Thomas Edwardes, of Greet, Bart., were also at Shrewsbury under Pigott. These two families had been educationally connected with the school from its foundation.

The best known name, though not the most favourably known, in Pigott's register is that of George Jeffreys,<sup>1</sup> afterwards Lord Chancellor and Baron Jeffreys of Wem. He was the sixth son of John Jeffreys, Esq., of Acton Park, near Wrexham, in Denbighshire, and was admitted at Shrewsbury School, together with four of his brothers, in the latter part of the year 1652.<sup>2</sup> The eldest brother John succeeded to his father's property, and was Sheriff of Denbighshire in 1680, when his brother George went on circuit as Judge of North Wales.<sup>3</sup> Blakeway, who has mentioned this fact, adds that another brother preached the Assize sermon on this occasion.<sup>4</sup> Three of the brothers, John, Thomas, and William, were at Overton School under Chaloner before they were entered at Shrewsbury. Thomas became in after life a merchant of Alicante, and was Consul there and at Madrid for many years. He was knighted at Windsor July 11th, 1686, and was also a Knight of Alcantara. George Jeffreys left Shrewsbury for St. Paul's School about 1659, and is said to have applied himself to Latin and Greek with considerable diligence while he was there. In 1661 he removed to Westminster, where Dr. Busby was then Head Master. On March 16th, 1662, he was admitted pensioner of Trinity College, Cambridge, but he does not appear to have taken any degree. In 1663 he became a Student of the Inner Temple, and in 1669 he was called to the Bar. Mr. William Williams, who

<sup>1</sup> The name is spelt *Jefferies* in the school register, but it is given as *Jeffreys* in the Patent of Peerage in 1685.

<sup>2</sup> The date of his birth is usually given as May 15th, 1645; but in the new *Dictionary of National Biography* George Jeffreys is said to have been born in 1648. This would make him little more than four years old when entered at Shrewsbury, which seems very improbable.

<sup>3</sup> See *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> The brother who preached the sermon was probably James, who was born in 1647, and went into holy orders, becoming in 1682 a Prebendary of Canterbury. William Jeffreys, who was at Overton and Shrewsbury, and graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, B.A. in 1664 and M.A. in 1669, may also have been in orders. Foss makes no mention of Jeffreys filling the office of Justice of North Wales. The sons of Mr. John Jeffreys who were admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1652 were John, Thomas, Edward, William, and George. All paid the fee appointed for sons of esquires or gentlemen. James, the seventh and youngest son, was not at Shrewsbury.



by this time had become Recorder of Chester, is said to have helped the future Chancellor in his first introduction to business. A voluble tongue and stentorian tones of voice soon gained for the young lawyer considerable practice, especially in criminal cases, and his steps up the legal ladder followed each other rapidly. Common Serjeant to the City of London in 1671, Solicitor to the Duke of York in 1677, Recorder of London in 1678, Serjeant-at-Law in 1679, King's Serjeant and Chief Justice of Chester in 1680, Chief Justice of the King's Bench in 1683, and Lord Chancellor in 1685. Sixteen years only elapsed between his call to the Bar and his ascent of the Woolsack. His promotion in civil rank was equally rapid; knighted in 1677, he was made a baronet in 1683, and raised to the peerage in 1685. The extreme severity which Jeffreys showed, when acting as president of the five judges appointed to try the rebels after Monmouth's defeat at Sedgemoor in 1685, has made his name notorious, and has undoubtedly caused his moral defects to be exaggerated, and his unquestionable abilities to be ignored by many writers. There are a few exceptions, however. Speaker Onslow says he was *a great Chancellor* in the business of the Court, and was considered "an able and upright judge" in private causes. Roger North, who hated him, testifies to his "extraordinary natural abilities," and says that when he was "*in temper*," and the matters before him were "*indifferent*," he "became his seat of justice better than any other he ever saw in his place." Serjeant Davy, speaking of him in 1784, describes him as "*a great lawyer*." Yorke, in his *Royal Tribes of Wales*, says that if Jeffreys were *a bad judge*, he was at any rate *a good lawyer*. And even Evelyn, while he calls him "of nature cruel" and "a slave to the Court," praises him for his "undaunted and assured spirit." The Chancellor's attempted escape after the abdication of King James II. in the disguise of a sailor, his recognition and arrest at Wapping, and his ultimate death in the Tower of London have been often described, and need no repetition here.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See FOSS's *Lives of the Judges*; GARBETT's *History of Wem*; EVELYN's *Diary*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, etc.



The amicable settlement in 1656 of the long-pending dispute about the school scholarships between the Corporation of Shrewsbury and St. John's College probably emboldened the Corporation to apply to the College a few years after to condone their illegalities and put Mr. Pigott's position at Shrewsbury on a safer footing; for, at the time of the Restoration, the college authorities formally nominated him to the head-mastership. The Mayor and Mr. Pigott also did what they could to help Mr. Tallents, the Presbyterian curate of St. Mary's, by executing a formal deed of appointment in his favour on October 16th, 1661.<sup>1</sup> But these kind intentions proved of no avail. On July 14th, 1662, Mr. Pigott, Mr. Tallents, Mr. John Betton, and several other leading puritans were imprisoned in the Castle.<sup>2</sup> And, although they were released in a few days, Mr. Pigott and Mr. Tallents were both deprived of their posts on September 1st, 1662, by the Commissioners appointed to enforce the Act of Uniformity in Shropshire.<sup>3</sup> Poor Pigott only survived his deprivation for a year. He was buried in St. Mary's Church on October 21st, 1663. At the time of his death he was official of St. Mary's, having received the appointment in 1651 for a term of forty years, providing he retained his head-mastership so long.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY.

<sup>2</sup> Among the other prisoners were Michael Betton, who had been "Canoneer to the Garrison," John Bryan, Charles Doughtie, Joseph Proud, Richard Lloyd, and John Bromley. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> The Commissioners were the Bishop of Lichfield, Lord Newport, Sir Walter Lyttelton, and Sir Timothy Tourneur, Recorder of Shrewsbury.

<sup>4</sup> Up to this time the curate of St. Mary's had always been the official.





EDWARD THE SIXTH

FROM A PANEL IN THE HEAD MASTER'S HOUSE

## CHAPTER IX.

Chaloner's Return to Shrewsbury—His Death—Andrew Taylor, M.A.,  
Head Master, 1664-1687—Richard Lloyd, M.A., Head Master, 1687-1723.

AFTER Mr. Pigott was released from prison it is probable that he resumed his duties at the schools, for the names of several new boys were entered during the month of August, and it was not till September 8th that the second master, Mr. Edward Cotton, "supplied the Head School-master's place."<sup>1</sup> While Mr. Cotton remained in charge of the school twenty-five new boys were admitted and nineteen more were promoted from the accident school to the third school. When once the Commissioners had decided against Mr. Pigott, all parties in the town seem to have concurred in the wish that Chaloner should return to his old duties at Shrewsbury. But he hesitated for a long time before he consented to do so, and it cannot be doubted that his hesitation was genuine. His exile had been long, many of the old faces which had been so familiar to him were gone, and Newport Grammar School had flourished greatly under his auspices. And so six months passed by before Chaloner made up his mind to return to his old home. And even then it was under the influence of pressure, and not very kindly pressure, that he decided to move. There were those at Newport whose interest it was that he should leave the place. Writing on March 4th, 166 $\frac{2}{3}$ , Chaloner expressly ascribes his determination to leave Newport to the "imperious and crafty" behaviour of his "under master," with whom, he says, he could no longer bear to associate.<sup>1</sup> Poor Chaloner! His wife would quarrel with his assistant

<sup>1</sup> See school register.



masters, his daughters would fall in love with adventurers, his younger sons would run into debt; and now, to crown all, comes this crushing blow from his firstborn, the one member of the family who does not seem to have given his father trouble in his younger days. For there seems no doubt that Thomas Chaloner, jun., who was invited by Mr. Adams in 1658 to assist his father at Newport, was the "under master" of whose "imperious and crafty" behaviour the returned exile speaks.<sup>1</sup> Chaloner's first wife, who had quarrelled with David Peirce, had long been dead. But Chaloner had married again, and he mentions in his diary that, when he went back to Shrewsbury in 1662, his second wife accompanied him. Several boys also, who had been with him at Newport, followed their Head Master to Shrewsbury. Two of the number, Littleton Powys and Thomas Powys, were destined to become in after life lawyers of distinction. They were the sons of Thomas Powys, Esq., of Henley, Salop, Serjeant-at-Law. Littleton Powys was baptised at Bitterley April 27th, 1647, and after leaving Shrewsbury was admitted at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, in 1663, but he does not appear to have taken any degree. In the following year he became a Student of Lincoln's Inn, and in 1671 he was called to the Bar. His first judicial appointment was that of Second Justice of Chester, which he received in 1689. In April, 1692, he was made a Serjeant-at-Law, and in December of the same year he was knighted. In 1695 he took his seat on the Bench as Baron of the Exchequer, and in 1700 he was promoted to the King's Bench. He resigned office in 1726 and died in March, 1731.<sup>2</sup> At the time of the Revolution Littleton Powys took up arms for the Prince of Orange and read his

<sup>1</sup> It is certain that he was still at Newport in 1664, for in that year he issued a halfpenny token with "Thos. Chaloner, T.M.C.," on the obverse, and "In Newport, 1664, his halfpeny," on the reverse.—(See *Shropshire Archaeological Society's Transactions* for 1886.)

<sup>2</sup> According to Blakeway Sir Littleton Powys died at Henley. But a more recent antiquarian, Mr. J. Morris, says that his death happened at his Shrewsbury house. It appears from FOSTER'S *Lists of Marriage Licenses*, issued in the Diocese of London, that Sir Littleton married Agnes Carter, of the parish of St. Dunstan-in-the-West, in December, 1674. For other particulars in his life see BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shropshire* and FOSS'S *Lives of the Judges*.

proclamation in Shrewsbury. He is said to have been a good plodding judge, but too apt to import politics into the cases which came before him. Two favourite phrases of his which used to excite much amusement at the Bar, "I humbly conceive" and "Look, do you see?" gave rise to a metrical lampoon by Philip Yorke, which he is said to have quoted at the judge's own table as a specimen of a poetical version of *Coke upon Littleton* that he was about to publish:—

"He that holdeth his lands in fee  
Need neither to shake nor to shiver,  
*I humbly conceive*, for *Look, do you see?*  
They are his and his heirs for ever."

Thomas Powys was admitted as a pensioner at Queen's College, Oxford, on May 20th, 1664, at the age of fifteen, and, after a short stay at the university, followed his brother to Lincoln's Inn. In 1672 he was called to the Bar, and in 1686 he was made Solicitor-General, being then, according to Macaulay, only "an obscure barrister." As a law officer of the Crown he argued before the Court of King's Bench in favour of the royal dispensing power in the celebrated case of Sir Edward Hales. In 1688 he became Attorney-General, and he was leading counsel in the prosecution of "the Seven Bishops." Macaulay uses strong terms as to his "incompetency to perform the ordinary duties of his post," and calls him "a third-rate lawyer."

Epitaphs are not always trustworthy testimonials, either of character or abilities; but still it is hardly possible to believe that Prior, who wrote the epitaph on Sir Thomas Powys's monument in Lilford Church, would have spoken of him in such terms of praise as he uses, were Macaulay's very unfavourable estimate just and fair. Prior says that "nothing equalled his knowledge except his eloquence" and "nothing excelled both except his justice," and also extols his moral and religious virtues as well as his judicial eloquence.

After the Revolution Sir Thomas continued to obtain a fair practice at the Bar but was kept on the proscribed list, so far as promotion was concerned, during the reign of William III. Early in the reign of Queen Anne, however,

he was made Serjeant-at-Law and then Queen's Serjeant, and in 1713 he became a Justice of the Queen's Bench.

At that time Sir Thomas had for twelve years continuously represented Ludlow in the House of Commons. His tenure of judicial office seems to have been short, as he was superseded in 1714, soon after George I. came to the throne, on the representation of Lord Cowper that it was undesirable to have two brothers sitting in the same court.<sup>1</sup>

Sir Thomas was twice married. He died in 1719. His great-grandson was created Baron Lilford in 1797, taking his title from the estate which Sir Thomas bought in 1719 in Northamptonshire.<sup>2</sup>

Two sons of Sir Job Charlton, Bart., Speaker of the House of Commons, Chief Justice of Chester, and, in the latter years of his life, a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, were also among the boys who accompanied Chaloner when he returned to his former home. With a brief account of the reasons which induced him to leave Newport, to which reference has already been made, and of his resumption of work at Shrewsbury, Chaloner's diary comes to an end. Of the rest of his life we know nothing beyond what the entry of new boys' names in the school register can tell us. On July 2nd, 1664, he seems to have made his last entry, and the next words in the register record his death. Like Pigott, whom he so soon followed to the grave, and many other Shrewsbury masters, Chaloner lies buried in the "Scholars' Chapel" in St. Mary's Church.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Edward Cotton, the second master, who discharged the duties of Head Master for six months after Pigott was deprived, but appears to have quietly recognised Chaloner's claims to return to his old post if he cared to do so, now

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas was a benefactor to the school library in 1717, and is described in the register as *Baron of the Exchequer*. It is possible, therefore, that he was only transferred in 1714 from one court to another. The entry in the library register is certainly strong evidence, and the probability that Sir Thomas was not removed altogether from judicial office is increased when we remember that Lord Cowper spoke of him to the King as the abler of the two brothers.

<sup>2</sup> See BLAKESLEY's *Sheriffs of Shropshire*, PECK's *Desiderata Curiosa*, and FOSS's *Lives of the Judges*.

<sup>3</sup> Chaloner was buried October 21st, 1664.



offered himself as a candidate for the head-mastership under the ordinance which directed the Bailiffs, in the case of a vacancy, to promote the second master, with the consent of the Bishop of the diocese, if he had "served two years, and had proved by his learning, zeal, conversation, and diligence to be equal to the discharge of the office."

It is probable that Bishop Hacket refused his consent. At any rate, it is certain that the Bishop was very desirous of securing the appointment for a Mr. Bull,<sup>1</sup> in whose candidature Lord Newport, for some reason or other, took great interest. But the master and seniors of St. John's College, on November 30th, 1664, selected the Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A.,<sup>2</sup> fellow of King's College, Cambridge, who was the son of a Shrewsbury burgess, and had been at Shrewsbury School before going to Eton College.

Efforts seem to have been made by Lord Newport and his friends to induce the Bailiffs to veto the college nomination, and the Bishop gave all the help he could in the matter by delaying for several weeks to sign and seal his documentary approval of the college choice. But Andrew Taylor's friends in Shrewsbury, especially Mr. Archbold,<sup>3</sup> whom the Bishop calls "a little crafty creature," and Mr. Richard Taylor,<sup>4</sup> who was probably a near relation, exerted themselves strenuously in his behalf.

On January 7th, 166 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the Bishop wrote to Lord Newport, telling him that Mr. Andrew Taylor had handed him the college nomination, and that he could not but perceive him to be "a capable person," but that he had delayed his admission to the head-mastership on the ground that Mr. Cotton had not yet legally surrendered his claim to promotion, this excuse being, as the Bishop explained, only a pretence, his

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Bull's name is not to be found in the school register.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Taylor is described as M.A. in the college nomination, but only his B.A. degree is mentioned in the Cambridge list of graduates.

<sup>3</sup> Henry Archbold, Esq., was appointed official of St. Mary's in 1665. (*Hoitchkiss MSS.*) He was an eminent advocate and was subsequently knighted. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Richard Taylor was son of Mr. Richard Taylor, of Shrewsbury, mercer. He was an attorney by profession, and filled the office of Mayor in 1669. He died December 26th, 1676, aged 63. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)



real object being to give Lord Newport an opportunity of persuading the college authorities to nominate Mr. Bull as well as Mr. Taylor to him, so that he might exercise a choice between the two. The Bishop concludes with the expression of a hope that his lordship might be persuaded to make a more generous contribution to the vast expense of repairing Lichfield Cathedral.<sup>1</sup>

As the Bishop executed the necessary documents in confirmation of Mr. Taylor's appointment on January 14th, it is probable that Lord Newport did not think it advisable to continue the contest any longer. Andrew Taylor was entered at Shrewsbury School in February, 1649, and his name appears in a school list of 1642 in the second class of the third school. After leaving Eton he became in due course a scholar and fellow of King's College, and graduated B.A. in 1661.<sup>2</sup>

Poor Mr. Cotton did not long survive his disappointment. He died on October 10th, 1668, and was succeeded by Mr. John Haynes, M.A., of Magdalene College, Cambridge, whose father appears to have been a resident in Shrewsbury, though not a burgess, when the son was entered at school in 1652. John Haynes graduated B.A. in 1664 and M.A. in 1668, and had resided in Shrewsbury during the four years which had elapsed since he took his B.A. degree.

On October 20th, 1668, the Mayor, Mr. Samuel Lloyd,<sup>3</sup> wrote to the master and seniors of St. John's College, strongly recommending Mr. Haynes for the second-mastership. But Mr. Andrew Taylor was not in favour of his candidature, believing him to be inclined to the "presbyterian faction," and other objections against him seem to have been urged by persons in Shrewsbury, whose names the college did not disclose.

<sup>1</sup> The Bishop's letter is given in the *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Taylor married Elisabeth, widow of Mr. Cotton, at St. Mary's Church, on July 11th, 1671. Mr. Cotton was buried at St. Mary's on October 13th, 1668.

<sup>3</sup> *Samuel Lloyd*, who was the second son of Mr. John Lloyd, of Shrewsbury, alderman and draper, was entered at school in 1631 and admitted to the freedom of the Drapers' Company in 1646. In 1653 he was a benefactor to the school library.

Mr. Samuel Walthall,<sup>1</sup> too, one of their own fellows, who had been for three years under Pigott at Shrewsbury and was the son of a burgess, was persuaded by his friends to offer himself for the post. Under these circumstances it would have been strange indeed if the college had not elected Mr. Walthall. But the Corporation of Shrewsbury determined to resist his appointment and on November 4th sent a long protest to the college, declaring that Mr. Andrew Taylor had failed to substantiate the charges made against Mr. Haynes, who was quite free from factious tendencies.<sup>2</sup>

On November 20th the Mayor wrote a letter to the same effect to Dr. Gunning, master of St. John's College. In this letter it is asserted that Mr. Walthall would never have become a candidate had he not been "persuaded by some private persons unconcerned." Further correspondence ensued, but after the Mayor had written a conciliatory letter on February 6th, 1668, in which he freely acknowledged Mr. Walthall to be a far better qualified man than Mr. Haynes, the former appears to have resigned his candidature, and on February 15th, 1668, the college authorities formally nominated Mr. Haynes.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Samuel Walthall* was a son of Mr. John Walthall, of Shrewsbury, draper. He was admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, June 21st, 1652, and is said in the college register to have been at Shrewsbury School for three years under Pigott. As he was born in 1634 there can hardly be any doubt that he originally entered school in Chaloner's time. But his name is not to be found in the school register. He graduated B.A. in 1655, M.A. in 1668, and B.D. in 1667. On March 25th, 1656, he was elected fellow.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Andrew Taylor had probably been indiscreet in the matter. A memorandum which Hotchkis quotes from the *Corporation Book of Orders* indicates injudicious behaviour towards the assistant masters, as well as an autocratic tendency of mind. Remonstrances seem to have been made with him by the Mayor for claiming undue authority over the second and third masters, and for keeping them waiting outside the chapel door at service time by retaining the key in his own possession.

<sup>3</sup> The nomination by the college is among the school documents preserved in the Town Hall at Shrewsbury. For a full account of the correspondence see the school account-book. Mr. Haynes was a benefactor to the school library in 1670. At the time of his election to the second-mastership he was minister of St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, a cure to which he was appointed on June 24th, 1665. On September 29th in that year he married, and a son of his was baptised at St. Julian's on July 31st, 1666.

He did not, however, remain long at Shrewsbury School, for we find that, towards the end of 1672, the second-mastership became again vacant. Once more the Corporation determined to assert its claim to appoint the Shrewsbury masters. On receiving a notification of the vacancy the master and seniors of St. John's College proceeded to elect a new second master. Their choice fell on the Rev. Richard Andrews, M.A., a member of their own college, a former scholar of Shrewsbury School, and the son of a burgess.<sup>1</sup> But the Corporation refused to acknowledge the validity of the appointment, and at once installed in the second master's room the Rev. Oswald Smith, B.A., of Christ Church, Oxford, who had only recently taken his degree.<sup>2</sup> The Mayor, no doubt, had the legal right to refuse his assent to the college nomination for "reasonable cause." But to install another gentleman, without asking the college for a fresh nomination, was an act of manifest illegality. Litigation naturally ensued, and the contest was carried on for several years, much to the detriment of the interests of the school; as, upon these occasions, the Corporation almost invariably had recourse to the school-chest for its law expenses. Chancery proceedings commenced in 1675, the matter having been referred to the Lord Keeper by Order in Council dated December 16th, 1674.

Hotchkis has preserved some interesting letters written from London by Mr. Francis Gibbons, who was acting as solicitor for the Corporation, to Mr. Alkis, giving various details as to the progress of the Oswald Smith case.

The first letter is dated June 29th, 1675. From it we

<sup>1</sup> *Richard Andrews* was the son of Mr. Roger Andrews, a shoemaker of Shrewsbury. He was baptised at St. Julian's on December 2nd, 1647, entered Shrewsbury School in 1656, and was admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on January 13th, 1662, at the age of sixteen. He graduated B.A. in 1667 and M.A. in 1671. His nomination by the college to the second-mastership bears date December 12th, 1672. His prospects in life were not much affected by the adverse action of the Corporation, as he obtained the rectories of Upton Magna and Withington. He died in 1726.

<sup>2</sup> *Oswald Smith* was son of the Rev. James Smith, Rector of Withington. He graduated B.A. in 1671 and M.A. in 1672. Benefactor to the school library in 1691. Died July 26th, 1715.



learn that the Lord Keeper<sup>1</sup> had appointed that day for a rehearing of the whole question at issue between the college and the Corporation. Sir Thomas Jones and Sir William Baldwin were counsel for the latter, and Sir John King was retained for the former. The heads of the case for the town are given, and a very poor case it was. It consisted chiefly of an *assertion* and an *argument*. The *assertion* was that the Corporation had a *plain right to nominate masters*, and the *argument* that they were *the fittest persons* to do so. It seems from Mr. Gibbons's letter that his clients were inclined to agree to a sort of compromise, and had expressed their willingness, so long as the right of appointment was acknowledged to be theirs by the college, to nominate a second person if the college, on examination, should judge their first nominee to be unfit, and to allow the college to elect masters when they had no duly qualified candidates of their own to appoint. So preposterous did these suggestions appear to the Corporation counsel that they refused to bring them before the Lord Keeper; and Mr. Gibbons's only recourse was to go to Sir John King and ask him to consent to a postponement of the hearing, on the ground that the defendants' counsel could not attend, agreeing, of course, to pay costs. In the meantime he sought further instructions from the Corporation.

Chancery disputes, even in those days, were not quickly brought to an end, and the Oswald Smith case was still going on in December, 1677. On November 10th of that year Mr. Gibbons wrote to Mr. Adam Oatley, the Town Clerk of Shrewsbury, at the desire of Lord Newport, who was interesting himself in the matter, to ask for further evidence. But the town had no evidence worthy of notice to produce, and on November 30th Mr. Gibbons had to tell his clients that, after reading the letters supplied by them, which were found to agree with those in the college book, the general opinion was that the Corporation had no

<sup>1</sup> Sir Heneage Finch, Bart., was appointed Lord Keeper on November 9th, 1672, and Lord Chancellor on December 19th, 1675. In the interval he had been created Baron Finch of Daventry.



case. On December 5th there was a meeting of counsel at the house of Lord Newport, who had prepared an abstract of the letters, and both sides agreed that, with the exception of one or two, the letters "made wholly for the college." In spite of this Lord Newport proposed that, not only should Oswald Smith be left undisturbed in his present position, but, for the future, the college and the Corporation should nominate to masterships turn and turn about. This proposal counsel for the college refused to entertain, and they pointed out that their clients considered themselves hardly used in the matter; they had a trust to fulfil, and nothing to gain for themselves by clinging to their right to discharge the duties imposed upon them by that trust. But, while they were put to considerable expense by this litigation, the Corporation paid its expenses out of the school funds. Mr. Gibbons wrote to the above effect on December 6th, and on the same day Mr. Thomas Edwardes<sup>1</sup> enclosed to Mr. Adam Oatley Lord Newport's "abstract of letters," stating, for the information of the Corporation, that both Lord Newport and Sir Samuel Baldwin<sup>2</sup> were satisfied that the college was in the right. It appears from a letter written by Mr. Roper to Mr. Andrews, on May 2nd, 1679, that the case was still before the Court. It had been heard in part by the Lord Chancellor on Holy Thursday, and he had postponed the further hearing for a week, in the hope that the parties might come to some agreement. It is mentioned in this letter that Lord Newport had persuaded Mr. Kynaston to offer Mr. Andrews the living

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Edwardes* was second son of Sir Thomas Edwardes, Bart., of Greet, Salop. He entered Shrewsbury School in 1659, matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, July 1st, 1664, aged seventeen, and became a Student at Gray's Inn on July 1st, 1665. No doubt he was acting for the Corporation in a legal capacity at this time (1677). In 1681 he was made Town Clerk, and he held that office till 1720. Ancestor of the second line of baronets. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> Sir Thomas Jones was now a Justice of the King's Bench. Sir Samuel Baldwin, of Stoke Castle, was a Serjeant-at-Law. He was not at Shrewsbury School himself, but had two sons there, both of whom were entered in 1662. The elder of the two, William, died unmarried. Charles, the younger, succeeded his father at Stoke Castle, became Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral, and was elected M.P. for Ludlow in 1688 and 1695. Both sons were at Queen's College, Oxford. (*Blakeway MSS.*)

of Hordley, in Shropshire, but that he had refused to surrender his nomination to the second-mastership.<sup>1</sup> There is little or no doubt that some arrangement of this sort was ultimately made, for Mr. Oswald Smith retained his post till his death in 1715.

Mr. Andrew Taylor must have been quite a young man when he began work at Shrewsbury as Head Master, and as we hear of sixty-seven boys being admitted in 1684 and fifty-eight in 1685,<sup>2</sup> at a time when his career was drawing to an end, it seems probable that the school was fairly prosperous in the early years of his mastership. Unfortunately the school registers between 1664 and 1798 have been lost for many years, and the materials for giving any detailed account of the history of the school, or the boys who were educated there in Taylor's time, as well as in that of his successors during the eighteenth century, are but scanty.

We know, however, of a few men of some distinction who were educated at Shrewsbury School while Taylor was Head Master.

Richard Hill,<sup>3</sup> the diplomatist, who built the mansion in Hawkestone Park, Shropshire, was for some years at Shrewsbury before he went to Eton College. He graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1678, and was made a fellow in the following year. He also took deacon's orders; but becoming acquainted, when acting as tutor to Lord Hyde, son of Lawrence, Earl of Rochester, with the Earl of Ranelagh, Paymaster-General of the forces, he was recommended by him for the appointment of Deputy Paymaster to the army sent into Flanders in 1691. This office he held till the end of the war in 1697. Subsequently Mr. Hill was frequently employed in the diplomatic service.

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkiss MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> See *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> *Richard Hill* was second son of Mr. Rowland Hill, of Hawkestone, Salop. He was born on March 23rd, 1654 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 18th, 1675, at the age of nineteen (?). He graduated B.A. in 1678 and M.A. in 1682; fellow in 1679. It should be noted that the date of his birth, as given by Blakeway, does not agree with his age in 1675, as recorded in the college register.

After the peace of Ryswick, in 1699, he went as Envoy Extraordinary to Turin, and on his return he was made a Lord of the Treasury. On the accession of Queen Anne he was transferred to the Admiralty, and he continued in that department till the death of the Prince of Denmark. In 1703 he went out to Italy as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to all the Italian States except the Papal, and in 1709 he was nominated on a similar mission to the States General and the Council of State in the Netherlands. But on this latter occasion he was prevented by illness from attempting the journey. After his retirement from public life Richard Hill took priest's orders and was made a fellow of Eton College. He is said to have been offered a bishopric. The house at Hawkestone was built by him for his nephew, Rowland Hill, for whom he also procured a baronetcy. His own residence was at Richmond. He died in 1727 and was buried at Hodnet. He was a great benefactor to his college at Cambridge, and his portrait hangs in the college hall.<sup>1</sup>

Robert Digby, Baron Digby, of Geashill, Ireland, was another pupil of Taylor. He matriculated at Magdalen College, Oxford, on November 6th, 1670, at the age of sixteen, and was created M.A. on July 11th, 1676. He had succeeded to the title the same year that he went to Oxford. In May, 1677, Lord Digby was elected M.P. for Warwick, but he died on December 29th of the same year. His name appears as a benefactor in the register of the school library, where he is described as "former scholar."

Mr. Robert Price, Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, was also at Shrewsbury in Taylor's time, having previously been, according to Foss, at Wrexham School. He was a son of Thomas Price, Esq., of Gealor, in the parish of Cerrig-y-Druidion, Denbighshire, and was born on January 14th,

<sup>1</sup> Much of his property was left to two nephews, Samuel Barbour and Thomas Harwood, both of whom assumed the name of Hill. Harwood, by his second wife, who was a daughter of Mr. Justice Noel, was father of Noel Hill, created Baron Berwick in 1784. For other particulars of Richard Hill's life see BLAKEWAY'S *Sheriffs of Shropshire*, BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*, and the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*



165 $\frac{2}{3}$ . In May, 1673, Robert Price was admitted Student of Lincoln's Inn; in 1679 he was called to the Bar; and in 1682 he was made Attorney-General of South Wales. Subsequently he became, in 1683, Recorder of Radnor; in 1687, Town Clerk of Gloucester; in 1700, a Justice of North Wales; in 1702, Baron of the Exchequer; and in 1726, Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. Before he attained high judicial office Robert Price sat in the House of Commons for the borough of Weobley during several Parliaments. In 1685 he was appointed Steward of Shrewsbury by the Crown, but was removed from office three years later. Foss says that Mr. Robert Price was never knighted. He died on February 2nd, 173 $\frac{2}{3}$ .<sup>1</sup> He was a benefactor to Shrewsbury School library in 1693, and is described in the register as "former scholar."

Another of Taylor's boys was Arthur Maynwaring, the poet and politician. He was born at Ightfield, in Shropshire, and was a descendant of Sir George Maynwaring, who was at Shrewsbury School under Ashton. His grandfather, Sir Arthur Maynwaring, was a well-known courtier in the reign of James the First and a friend of Prince Henry. After leaving Shrewsbury Arthur Maynwaring went up to Christ Church, Oxford, in 1683, but he does not seem to have taken a degree, though it was not till 1687 that he became a Student of the Inner Temple. His mother was a Cholmley, of Vale Regis, and the Jacobite tendencies of his younger days were probably due to the influence of his uncle, Sir Francis Cholmley. Two of his earliest poems were political satires, written from a Jacobite point of view, *Tarquin and Tullia* and *The King of Hearts*. The former was directed against William the Third and Queen Mary. Subsequently Arthur Maynwaring became reconciled to the existing régime, and in 1695 he obtained a commissionership of Customs through the influence of Lord Halifax. In 1706 he was

<sup>1</sup> Robert Price was admitted pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, on March 28th, 1672, at the age of seventeen, and was made a fellow-commoner on September 15th of the same year. It appears from the college register, which describes him as "bred at Ruthin," that he must have left Shrewsbury for Ruthin before going to Cambridge.



elected M.P. for Preston, and from 1710 to 1712 he represented West Looe in Parliament. In 1705 he was appointed Auditor of Imprests with a salary of £3000 a year. For many years he was on terms of great intimacy with Mrs. Oldmixon, the celebrated actress, whom he made his executor, and to whom he left half his property. He died on November 13th, 1712, and was buried at Chertsey in Surrey.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Bowers, Bishop of Chichester, the son of Mr. Richard Bowers, a baker of Shrewsbury, was educated at Shrewsbury School and St. John's College, Cambridge. In 1704, being then Vicar of Hoo, in Sussex, he was a benefactor to the school library. In 1715 the Rev. Thomas Bowers was made a Prebendary of Canterbury. Subsequently he became Archdeacon of Canterbury and a royal chaplain. In August, 1722, he was consecrated Bishop of Chichester, but he only held the see for two years, dying on August 22nd, 1724.<sup>2</sup>

Another Shrewsbury-born boy who was at school under Taylor, John Weaver, acquired in after life considerable fame in Shropshire and elsewhere as a teacher of dancing, though we have no reason for supposing that he acquired his knowledge of that art at Shrewsbury School. Tradition relates that he introduced scenical dancing into England. An exhibition of this sort, called "The Judgment of Paris," was performed by his pupils about 1750 in the great room over the market hall at Shrewsbury. Mr. Weaver's essay on the history of dancing had some reputation in its day. He is described as a little, cheerful, dapper man, and is said to have been much respected in Shrewsbury.<sup>3</sup>

As early as 1677 Mr. Taylor's health had begun to fail, and he appears to have thought seriously of resigning.<sup>4</sup> But

<sup>1</sup> *Arthur Maynwaring* was born in 1668. He matriculated at Christ Church in 1683 at the age of fifteen. For other details of his life see *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*

<sup>2</sup> *Thomas Bowers* was admitted as a subsizar at St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 13th, 1677. See BAKER's *Hist. of St. John's College, Cambridge.*

<sup>3</sup> *John Weaver* was baptised at Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, on July 21st, 1673, and was buried at St. Chad's on September 28th, 1760. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>4</sup> When the Oswald Smith case was before the Court of Chancery Lord Newport mentioned at a meeting of counsel held at his house on December 5th, 1677, that Mr. Taylor was about to resign. See *Hotchkiss MSS.*

this intention was given up for a time; probably there was some temporary improvement. But a few years later, in 1686, the Head Master's condition was regarded as so hopeless that the Roman Catholics began to make preparations for securing the succession to the head-mastership. A Jesuit named Sebrand was admitted a burgess of Shrewsbury on June 30th, with the view of smoothing away difficulties that might stand in the way of his future appointment. The next year is notable in the annals of Shrewsbury for James II.'s visit to the town.<sup>1</sup> The authorities received the King with all due respect, and "the conduits ran with wine the day his Majesty came to town." Unfortunately we have neither school register, nor *Taylor MS.*, to tell us what part the boys took in the entertainment of the King. But there is little or no doubt that during the royal visit, which was made in the month of August, arrangements were completed for the immediate appointment of Sebrand so soon as Mr. Taylor's death should take place. But these designs were thwarted by the Head Master's secret resignation in November. Messengers were at once despatched to Cambridge, and the authorities of St. John's College lost no time in electing Mr. Richard Lloyd, who was one of their own fellows. The approval of the Bishop of Lichfield was obtained as speedily as possible, and the new Head Master was formally installed in his office by the Mayor of Shrewsbury. It was well that no time had been lost in the matter, for the Roman Catholic partisans had provided themselves with a royal mandate for Sebrand's appointment, and Andrew Taylor only survived two months after his resignation. He was buried at St. Mary's on January 26th, 1687.

Richard Lloyd, Head Master 1687-1723.

Richard Lloyd was the son of Mr. Griffith<sup>2</sup> Lloyd of Frankwell, Shrewsbury, and was born about 1661. He received his school education at Shrewsbury, and was

<sup>1</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY.

<sup>2</sup> *Blakeway MSS.* The admission register of St. John's College gives the father's name as George.

admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 24th, 1677, at the age of sixteen. After graduating, as B.A. in 1679 and M.A. in 1683, he was elected fellow of his college on April 8th, 1685. On November 20th, 1687, he was chosen by the master and seniors as Mr. Andrew Taylor's successor, and he continued Head Master of Shrewsbury for thirty-six years. The school is said to have flourished under his charge for some years; but, by 1719, it had fallen to a very low ebb. Blakeway tells us that in that year there were only seven boys to be found in the highest school, seven in the second, nine in the third, and three in the accident school. The Rev. Benjamin Wingfield, M.A., curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, has left a melancholy picture of the condition of the school in the latter part of Lloyd's head-mastership in an affidavit which he made on January 2nd, 174 $\frac{3}{4}$ . He says that he was under Mr. Hotchkis between one and two years while he was an assistant master,<sup>1</sup> but was removed from Shrewsbury to Wem Grammar School with several other boys in consequence of the low repute of the former school, the Head Master being, "by his age and infirmities, incapable to discharge his duties."<sup>2</sup>

One reason, at any rate, for the decay of the school under Mr. Lloyd is the fact that, during his tenure of office at Shrewsbury, he held stalls at Hereford and Brecon, as well as the Vicarage of Sellack in Herefordshire.<sup>3</sup> At last, in Michaelmas term 1717, an information was filed in the Court of Chancery against the Head Master and Mr. Rowland Tench,<sup>4</sup> the second master, by the Attorney-General, Sir Edward Northey, at the relation of Bulkeley Mackworth, Esq., and others, for the breach of the school ordinance which prohibited the holding of parochial or other cures with the school masterships. It was stated by the

<sup>1</sup> Leonard Hotchkis was third master from 1715 to 1723; so that it is plain that Mr. Wingfield was at Shrewsbury sometime during the last eight years of Lloyd's head-mastership.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> Sellack was in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Rowland Tench held the curacy of Astley at this time.



petitioners that the inhabitants sent their boys to other schools in consequence of the masters' neglect, and that, at the time the information was filed, there were only eight boys in the highest school.

In the decree issued by Lord Chancellor Macclesfield, apparently in the same term, it was ordered that Mr. Lloyd should be given six months time to make up his mind whether he would resign the head-mastership or his vicarage. In other respects the plaintiffs' bill was dismissed. No costs were given to either side.<sup>1</sup> Probably Mr. Lloyd decided to give up the Vicarage of Sellack, as he did not resign the head-mastership till June, 1723. He died in 1733, aged seventy-two, and was buried in St. Mary's Church. Various changes took place in the staff of masters during the time Mr. Lloyd was Head Master, and the Corporation took advantage of the very first vacancy that occurred to assert again, in defiance of the ordinances, its right to appoint the schoolmasters, and to pay the cost of any consequent litigation out of the school funds. In 1688, the year after Mr. Lloyd's appointment, the third-mastership became vacant by the resignation of Mr. John Taylor,<sup>2</sup> who had held it since 1659. Mr. Henry Johnson,<sup>3</sup> a graduate of their own college and a native of Shrewsbury, was nominated by the master and seniors of St. John's as his successor.

Emboldened apparently by the fact that Mr. Oswald Smith, in spite of the acknowledged illegality of his appointment, had been ultimately allowed to retain the second room in which he had been placed by order of the Corporation, that body, instead of admitting the college nominee, proceeded to make an appointment of its own, selecting

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.* and *Blakeway MSS.* In 1722-23 a Corporation order was voted that one of the schoolmasters, having accepted a living, should quit the school. This order seems to indicate that no notice had been taken of the decree in Chancery by the Head Master, or else that he had resigned Sellack in 1717 and had subsequently taken another living.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. John Taylor was buried at St. Mary's August 1st, 1688.

<sup>3</sup> The newly appointed master was a son of Mr. Henry Johnson, an alderman of Shrewsbury. He was admitted pensioner of St. John's College on May 31st, 1682, and graduated B.A. in 1686.



for the purpose Mr. Robert Matthews,<sup>1</sup> who was also a native of Shrewsbury and a graduate of St. John's. On June 25th, 1688, an order was voted at a meeting of the Corporation that Mr. Matthews should be put in the third room in the place of Mr. John Taylor. It is probable that the college authorities did not feel inclined to embark again in a legal contest which might prove as prolonged and expensive as the Oswald Smith case, especially as both the candidates were graduates of St. John's, for on December 16th, 1688, Dr. Millington of Magdalene College, Cambridge, wrote to Mr. Salter, the Mayor of Shrewsbury, that he had heard from the master of St. John's that, if Mr. Johnson were willing to surrender his nomination, the college would elect Mr. Matthews.<sup>2</sup> It is not a matter for surprise that Mr. Johnson proved unwilling to do this, and on February 27th, 1688, another order was passed by the Corporation to the effect that any attempt to oust Mr. Matthews should be resisted at the school expense.<sup>3</sup> It does not appear whether or not legal proceedings were taken by Mr. Johnson to enforce his claims, and his death in September, 1690, left Mr. Matthews in undisputed possession of the third-mastership. No further change took place till the death of Mr. Matthews in 1701, when the Rev. Rowland Tench,<sup>3</sup> B.A., of St. John's College, was chosen to fill the vacancy. In 1713 the Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, B.A., of St. John's College, succeeded Mr. Joshua Johnson<sup>4</sup> as accident master, and in 1715, on the death of

<sup>1</sup> *Robert Matthews* was the son of Mr. Thomas Matthews of Shrewsbury, draper. He was baptised at St. Alkmund's on August 3rd, 1659, and, after leaving Shrewsbury, was admitted sizar of St. John's College on October 30th, 1683, aged nineteen. He graduated B.A. in 1685. He was buried at St. Alkmund's February 12th, 1701. His name appears in the school accounts for 1694 as curate of Clive.

<sup>2</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> *Rowland Tench* was the son of Mr. Richard Tench of Shrewsbury, alehouse keeper. Admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 19th, 1697, aged eighteen; graduated B.A. in 1700 and M.A. in 1710; curate of Astley, Salop, 1714-1728; second master, 1715-1728; resigned both curacy and mastership on being made Rector of Church Stretton in 1728; benefactor to school library in 1728. Died in 1748, aged seventy-one. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>4</sup> *Joshua Johnson* was a son of Mr. Richard Johnson of Shrewsbury. He was admitted sizar of St. John's College on June 6th, 1702, aged eighteen, and graduated B.A. in 1706 and M.A. in 1710.

Mr. Oswald Smith,<sup>1</sup> Rowland Tench was promoted to the second-mastership, Leonard Hotchkis succeeding to his post, and the Rev. Alexander Hatton, another graduate of St. John's, taking the accident school. Robert Goddard, who had been accident master nearly fifty years, died in 1699, and was succeeded by Mr. Francis Clarke, a graduate of St. John's, who, after holding office for six years, appears to have resigned in favour of Mr. Joshua Johnson, receiving for three years by agreement a portion of his stipend. When Clarke resigned Johnson had not yet taken his degree, and the charge of the accident school was taken for a few months by Mr. William Kynaston.<sup>2</sup>

In 1715 Mr. Ralph Adams, the school writing-master, died, and was buried at St. Mary's.<sup>3</sup> An arrangement had been made, as long ago as 1656, with St. John's College, that £5 per annum should be paid to a master "to teach poor scholars to write." Mr. John Taylor, the third master, seems to have discharged the duties of writing-master from 1663 to 1665, but after that it is probable that a regular writing-master was appointed.

In the year 1710 Shrewsbury was thrown into a state of excitement by the arrival of Dr. Sacheverell in the course of his triumphal progress from London to Selattyn. On December 13th, 1709, the Doctor was impeached before the House of Lords for certain sermons he had preached, and ultimately he was suspended from preaching for three years. But, for various reasons into which it is unnecessary to enter here, he became a sort of popular hero; and Robert Lloyd, Esq., of Aston, who had been a pupil of his at Magdalen College, Oxford, having presented him to the Rectory of Selattyn, near Oswestry, Dr. Sacheverell proceeded on his journey to his living amidst a chorus of applause and congratulation. Oxford, Banbury, and Warwick received him in turn with every mark of honour and welcome. He

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Oswald Smith, by will dated March 13th, 1713, left money to found two exhibitions for Shrewsbury scholars to be held at any college in either university. (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

<sup>2</sup> See school account-book and *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*.

reached Shrewsbury on July 3rd. The gentlemen of the neighbourhood rode out in large numbers to meet him, and Leonard Hotchkis, then a Cambridge student, led his horse by the bridle into the town. Mr. Thomas Dawes,<sup>1</sup> curate of St. Mary's, and Mr. William Bennett,<sup>2</sup> Vicar of St. Chad's, being fearful apparently of showing their sympathy in public, sent a message to Sacheverell to say that they would wait upon him at "the Raven" at night, and were told in answer that he would "have no Nicodemuses."<sup>3</sup>

Among the distinguished men who were educated at Shrewsbury in Lloyd's time may be reckoned Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Salisbury; Dr. William Adams, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, Samuel Johnson's friend; Ambrose Phillips, the poet; Dr. John Taylor, Canon of St. Paul's, Chancellor of Lincoln, and Archdeacon of Bucks, a great classical scholar, commonly known in his own day as "Demosthenes Taylor"; Richard Lyster, Esq.,<sup>4</sup> of Rowton Castle, who represented Shrewsbury or Shropshire in Parliament for more than forty years, and was called in the county "Senator Lyster"; and William Kynaston, of Ryton, Shropshire, Recorder of Shrewsbury, a Master in Chancery, and M.P. for Shrewsbury in 1741, 1744, and 1747.

Dr. John Thomas,<sup>5</sup> who was a native of Shrewsbury and

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Dawes* was a native of Shrewsbury and born in 1650. He was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1660, and subsequently graduated at Queen's College, Cambridge; B.A. in 1671, M.A. in 1675, and B.D. in 1684. He was a benefactor to the school library in 1691. Died on January 10th, 1712, and was buried at St. Mary's. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> *William Bennett*, son of Mr. William Bennett, of Shrewsbury, cloth worker, was baptised at St. Chad's on May 5th, 1648, entered at Shrewsbury School in 1657, and admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 2nd, 1667, aged eighteen. He graduated B.A. in 1670 and M.A. in 1676, and was appointed to St. Chad's on February 13th, 1681. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>3</sup> See OWEN and BLAKEWAY.

<sup>4</sup> *Richard Lyster*, eldest son of Thomas Lyster, Esq., of Rowton Castle, was born in 1691. He matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, on July 3rd, 1708, as gen. fil. of Salop, aged sixteen. In 1708 he was admitted Student of the Inner Temple. He is described in the register of benefactors to Shrewsbury School library as "formerly scholar of the school." He died April 13th, 1766. (BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs of Shropshire*.)

<sup>5</sup> *Dr. John Thomas* was the son of a Shrewsbury maltster who lived in Frankwell. He was baptised at St. Chad's on November 27th, 1687; B.A. in 1713, M.A. in 1717, and D.D. in 1729. (See OWEN's *History of Shrewsbury*.)



graduated at Catharine Hall, Cambridge, while acting as chaplain to the English merchants of Hamburg, 1725-1729, became known to King George II., who persuaded him to come to London, made him his chaplain, and got him appointed Rector of St. Vedast's, Foster Lane. His first considerable appointment was to the Deanery of Peterborough. In April, 1744, he was consecrated Bishop of Lincoln, and in 1761 he was translated to Salisbury. The Bishop is said to have been a "pleasant, facetious man, but rather deaf."

Dr. William Adams<sup>1</sup> was also a native of Shrewsbury, and was only thirteen years old when he entered Pembroke College, Oxford. Of this college he became fellow, tutor, and, in 1775, master. By virtue of his mastership he held a prebendal stall at Gloucester. A few years later Dr. Edward Cresset, Bishop of Llandaff, made him his Examining Chaplain, and gave him the Archdeaconry of Llandaff. It was in June, 1784, that Johnson and Boswell paid Dr. Adams their fortnight's visit at Oxford. Johnson had formed an intimacy with Adams during his residence at Pembroke in 1728-29.

The life of Ambrose Phillips<sup>2</sup> is included by Dr. Johnson in his *Lives of the Poets*. His Pastorals and some other poems were collected into a volume in 1749. The Pastorals are said to have been written when Phillips was at St. John's

<sup>1</sup> *William Adams* was the eldest son of Alderman John Adams of Shrewsbury. He was baptised at St. Chad's on September 3rd, 1706, was admitted at Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1719, and graduated B.A. in 1723, M.A. in 1727, and B.D. and D.D. in 1756. From 1731 to 1775 he held the curacy of St. Chad's, in Shrewsbury, and in 1755 he was made Rector of Cound, Shropshire. He is described in the register of Shrewsbury School library, to which he was a benefactor in 1738, as a former scholar. Dr. Adams is said to have written the first reply to HUME's *Essay on Miracles*. He died in 1789. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY; BOSWELL's *Life of Johnson*; *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*) Dr. Samuel Parr says of Dr. Adams that he united the "learning of a scholar, the accomplishments of a gentleman, and the piety of a Christian." (NICHOL's *Literary Illustrations*, vol. v.)

<sup>2</sup> *Ambrose Phillips*, son of Mr. Ambrose Phillips, a draper of Shrewsbury, was baptised at St. Alkmund's October 9th, 1674. He was admitted subsizar of St. John's on June 15th, 1693, at the age of eighteen, and was elected fellow in 1699. (See OWEN and BLAKEWAY, BAKER's *Hist. of St. John's College*, and *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1696 and M.A. in 1700. His *Epistle to the Earl of Dorset*, written at Copenhagen in 1709, was praised highly by Steele as a "winter piece"; but more recently Mr. Gosse has described it as "frigid and ephemeral." The *Odes to Children*, on the other hand, Mr. Gosse thinks "charming."

In 1724 Phillips accompanied his friend Boulter, who had been made Archbishop of Armagh, to Ireland, where he acted for a time as his secretary. He represented Armagh in the Irish Parliament of 1725, and in 1733 was made Judge of the Prerogative Court.

In 1721 he was a benefactor to Shrewsbury School library. He is described in the register as fellow of St. John's College and formerly a scholar of Shrewsbury School.

Dr. John Taylor<sup>1</sup> was grandson of the Rev. John Taylor, who was third master at Shrewsbury School from 1659 to 1688. He was baptised at St. Alkmund's June 20th, 1704. His father was a barber, and he himself was intended to follow the same occupation. But his early passion for books brought him under the notice of Mr. Edward Owen, of Condover Hall, who assisted in sending him to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1724, M.A. in 1728, and LL.D. in 1740. In due course he was made fellow and tutor of his college. In 1732 he was elected librarian, and in 1734 registry of the university. He is called in the register of benefactors to Shrewsbury School library "a former scholar."

Among his works were editions of Lysias and Demosthenes and *The Elements of Civil Law*. He died April 14th, 1766, leaving most of his valuable library to Shrewsbury School.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Taylor, after leaving Cambridge, practised for a few years as an advocate at Doctors' Commons. In 1744 he was made Chancellor of Lincoln, but he did not take holy orders for some time after this. He is said to have forfeited Mr. Edward Owen's favour by refusing to drink a Jacobite toast. In March, 1754, he was in residence at St. John's College, Cambridge, as tutor to Mr. Thynne. It was of him that Johnson once said, "Demosthenes Taylor is the most silent man, the merest statue of a man that I have ever seen. I have dined in company with him, and all he said during the whole time was 'Richard.'" (See NICHOL'S *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. iv.; OWEN and BLAKEWAY'S *History of Shrewsbury*; BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College*; and BOSWELL'S *Life of Johnson*.)

A dispute which had been carried on for many years between the school trustees and Mr. Daniel Wycharley, of Clive, in Shropshire, as to the amount of stipend to be paid to the curate of Clive, was finally settled in 1695, during Mr. Lloyd's head-mastership.

During the closing years of the Commonwealth, Mr. Wycharley<sup>1</sup> had instituted a suit in Chancery against the school trustees with the view of obtaining an increase of the curate's stipend, and for something like nine years, while the case was still undecided, he refused to pay any tithes for his Clive property. The suit was ultimately dismissed with costs. But in 1662 the Commissioners for enforcing the Act of Uniformity in Shropshire issued an order that the stipend of the curate of Clive should be raised from £5 to £10. The master and seniors of

<sup>1</sup> *Mr. Daniel Wycharley* was eldest son of Mr. Daniel Wycharley, of the Clive, Salop, who mortgaged his Clive estate to Mr. Gardner, of Sansaw. Gough describes the father as a spare, lean person, always in strife and greatly in debt. The son, he adds, was "well educated and bred to the law." He was entered in the second school at Shrewsbury in 1616, and re-entered in 1618 and 1619, and subsequently became a Student in the Inner Temple. When King Charles I. was leaving the west with his army he received him into his house. At that time Mr. Wycharley held a lease of Whitchurch farm under the Dean and Chapter of Westminster in conjunction with his brother-in-law, Mr. Shrimpton. For a time, at any rate, during the Commonwealth, he appears to have acted as steward to John Paulet, Marquis of Winchester, and is said to have remitted considerable sums to Charles II., when in exile, from the estates of the Marquis. As a punishment for this loyalty Wycharley and Shrimpton had to surrender their Whitchurch lease to Mr. Robert Wallop. It is probable that after this Wycharley practised in London as a barrister, for he was residing in the Inner Temple in September, 1660, when he petitioned the King for a royal letter to the Dean and Chapter, commanding them to renew the lease, which Wallop had in his turn forfeited, to himself and Shrimpton. It does not appear whether or not this request was granted; but Wycharley was made a Teller of the Exchequer. After the Restoration he bought the lordship of the manors of Loppington and Wem, and was made J.P. for the county. But, for some reason or other, his brother justices protested against his appointment, and, Lord Newport supporting their protest, Wycharley was summoned before the Council and deprived of his commission. He was a benefactor to the school library in 1681. (*Domestic State Papers*, Cal. 1662; GARBETT'S *Wem*; GOUGH'S *Middle*; and *Hist. of St. John's College*.) It is possible that one or other of the three school entries may refer to another Daniel Wycharley who went up to Queen's College, Cambridge, about 1622, and became a fellow of the college, but was ejected for his loyalty in 1644.

St. John's College sent their formal consent under the impression that the trustees were willing to comply with the order. But, from a letter which Dr. Gunning, the master, wrote to Sir Richard Prince, the Mayor of Shrewsbury, on July 10th, 1663, it appears that the trustees had declined to pay the increased stipend on the grounds that the school revenues were much abated; that they had some troublesome suits pending; that much money was needed to put the school buildings in proper repair; that the visitation of the Commission was intended for the regulation of *men* and not for the disposition of *estates*; and that the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, who was one of the Commissioners, had not the power, as such, to issue the order in question. The matter seems to have remained in abeyance till 1691, when, on a further appeal to the Queen in Council, it was referred to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, and on their report an order was ultimately made on May 14th, 1695, that the stipend of the Clive curate should be raised to £30 per annum, and that £10 should be paid by the school trustees for arrears.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Wycharley died in 1697.

<sup>1</sup> It appears from the school accounts that in 1696 and for many years after, the payment made on account of Clive was only £13 6s. 8d., so that the account given by Hotchkis of the Order in Council can hardly be correct.



## CHAPTER X.

Hugh Owen, B.A., 1723-1726—Robert Phillips, D.D., 1727-1735.

VARIOUS instances have already been mentioned in which the Corporation of Shrewsbury set at nought the school ordinances of 1577, and claimed the right to fill vacant masterships without any reference to St. John's College,<sup>1</sup> and this, too, in spite of the decisions of Law Courts<sup>2</sup> and the opinion, in one case at any rate, of their own counsel.<sup>3</sup> It seems difficult at the present day to suggest any reasonable grounds for the contention of the Shrewsbury burgesses, and it is impossible in a faithful history of the school to refrain from some endeavour to arrive at the motives by which they were influenced. Two arguments appear to have been put forward in support of their claim; first, that the Charter of Edward VI. gave them the right to appoint masters; secondly, that they were the fittest persons to do so. It is true that the King's Charter did give to the Bailiffs and burgesses of Shrewsbury, with the advice of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, the right of appointing the masters, as well as of framing ordinances for the government of the school. But the grant of Queen Elizabeth, made a few years afterwards, was not only a grant of new endowments, but practically a renewed grant of those of Edward VI., and the indenture by which it was made expressly reserved to Thomas Ashton the right of framing orders and constitutions for the application of these endowments to the better maintenance of the school, with the

<sup>1</sup> In 1635, 1646, 1672, and 1688.

<sup>2</sup> In 1636.

<sup>3</sup> In the Oswald Smith case Lord Newport and the Corporation counsel, Sir Samuel Baldwin, were both agreed that their clients had no case.



proviso that this right should pass to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry and the Dean of Lichfield for the time being, in case Ashton should die before they were framed. In accordance with the provisions of the Queen's indenture ordinances were ultimately made by Ashton after consultation with the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, Sir George Bromley, Sir Henry Townshend, and other learned and experienced friends, and to these ordinances the Corporation of Shrewsbury gave its full assent on February 11th, 157 $\frac{7}{8}$ . Now, by one of them, it was provided that, whenever any of the three masterships contemplated by the ordinances should become vacant the master and seniors of St. John's College, Cambridge, should "elect and send an able, meet, and apt man" to fill the post, the right of disallowing their choice for "*reasonable cause*" being given to the Bailiffs, and it is difficult to understand how, under these circumstances, the Corporation can have been so ill-advised as again and again to ignore the legal rights of the college. Still more preposterous was the assertion made by the members of that body that they were better able to make a fit choice than the Cambridge men. It is to be hoped that the Shrewsbury burgesses were more wrong-headed than dishonest in the matter, and that they were influenced by desire of power rather than by love of jobbery. But we must remember at the same time that the Head Master would be able to exercise little power as co-trustee with the Bailiffs of the school property were he to become a mere nominee of the Corporation, and that the unrestricted right of appointing the other masters would secure for the leading members of the Corporation opportunities of providing suitable and well-paid work for such of their friends and relations as had received university education. Litigation too, we must not forget, was not carried on between the Corporation and the college upon equal terms; for while the college authorities had to pay their own law expenses, the costs of the Corporation were taken from the school-chest. And this fact accounts, no doubt, for the Corporation resuming the contest again and again in spite of repeated

defeats ; for there was always the chance of the college giving way, as indeed it seems to have done on two or three occasions, for fear of the heavy costs, on condition that suitable provision should be made for its nominee in some other form.

It is not creditable again to the Corporation that statements should sometimes have been made and evidence put forward in their behalf which apparently had no foundation. A memorandum has been preserved in the school account-book under the date April 6th, 1675, made at the time when the Oswald Smith case was proceeding, that Mr. Samuel Lloyd<sup>1</sup> had averred in the Exchequer that when Meighen resigned in 1635 the college nominated one Evans as his successor ; but that the Corporation refused to accept him, and sent Mr. John Lloyd, his father, who was then Chamberlain of the town, to present Mr. Chaloner to the college authorities, who did thereupon choose him as Head Master. It is true that the Town Bailiffs did veto the appointment of Mr. William Evans on account of his youth ; but the rest of the statement seems to have been, to say the least of it, a serious misrepresentation. Mr. Samuel Lloyd completely ignored the installation of Mr. John Harding as Head Master by the Bailiffs, the consequent litigation between the college and the Corporation, and the defeat of the latter. The correspondence too between the college and the Bailiffs in January, February, and March, 163<sup>6</sup>/<sub>7</sub>, is quite inconsistent with the truth of Mr. Lloyd's indirect assertion that Mr. Chaloner was practically chosen by the Corporation.<sup>2</sup> Another example of what certainly appears, on the face of it, to be unscrupulous misrepresentation occurs at a much earlier period of the school history.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Samuel Lloyd had been Mayor in 1668-69.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. John Lloyd was a Shrewsbury draper. He was the bearer of the official letter written by the Bailiffs some time in January, 163<sup>6</sup>/<sub>7</sub>, to the college authorities, in which they were urgently entreated to "finde out and recommend a man fitted for the head place of our schoole." Mr. Lloyd also conveyed a private and much stronger letter to the college, for which only one of the Bailiffs, Mr. Simon Weston, was responsible. These letters, as well as that written by Dr. Beale, the master of St. John's College, enclosing Mr. Chaloner's formal nomination, are quite conclusive as to the groundlessness of Mr. Samuel Lloyd's statement. (See the school account-book and BAKER's *Hist. of St. John's College*.)

On the death of David Longdon in 1586 it became necessary to appoint someone to succeed him as School Bailiff. No provision had been made in the ordinances as to the method to be adopted in the election of this official. But common sense suggested that the trustees of the school property, the Town Bailiffs and the Head Master, would be the natural and proper electors. Such was the opinion of the counsel consulted in behalf of Mr. John Coyde, one of the candidates for the vacant office, and with this opinion Lord Chancellor Bromley<sup>1</sup> fully agreed. But one of the Bailiffs, backed up by a considerable party in the town, was obstinate in the matter, claiming that the election should be made by the general voice of the burgesses, and that the office should only be held from year to year, and should be terminable at the pleasure of the Bailiffs. Several months elapsed before the self-willed Bailiff gave way, although the Lord Chancellor distinctly assured him and his colleague that the claim put forward in behalf of the burgesses was "contrary to the constitutions and ordinances of the school," recommending them at the same time to "leave off these questions tending to sedition and contention."<sup>2</sup> Various letters on this subject are preserved among the town records, and in one of these, which purports to be an official letter from the Bailiffs and Head Master to the Lord Chancellor, it is asserted in support of the burgesses' claim that the office of School Bailiff had been originally granted to David Longdon by the Bailiffs and burgesses, and that he had been placed in office by them after the ordinances had been finished by Mr. Ashton. It is difficult to understand how *Mr. Bailiff*<sup>3</sup> can have made such an assertion when he must have known that David Longdon was employed by Mr. Ashton to collect rents, etc., as early as 1573, and that *he was expressly nominated as School Bailiff in the ordinances of 1577.*

<sup>1</sup> The Lord Chancellor was interested in the matter as a Shropshire man.

<sup>2</sup> The letter was written from his house near Charing Cross, and is dated March 6th, 1586.

<sup>3</sup> The Bailiffs for the year 1586-87 were Mr. Thomas Sherer and Mr. David Lloyd. It is unlikely that Mr. Sherer, who was Clerk to the Council of the Marches and a lawyer of repute, can have been the recalcitrant Bailiff.



The resignation of Mr. Lloyd, the Head Master, in June, 1723, was the signal for another and, as it proved, a final struggle on the part of the Corporation for supremacy in the appointment of schoolmasters. For some time past strenuous efforts had been made to bring about the Head Master's resignation, with the view of installing in his place Mr. Hugh Owen, B.A., of Jesus College, Oxford, a native of Carnarvonshire. Mr. Owen had not been born in Shropshire nor educated at Shrewsbury School, and he was not an M.A. of at least two years' standing.

In order, apparently, in some way to make up for his entire want of statutory qualifications Mr. Owen was admitted as a burgess of Shrewsbury in 1721. Sometime during the year 1721-22 an order was voted by the Corporation that "the schoolmaster having accepted a living should quit the school," and there can be no moral doubt that this order was passed with the view of enforcing Mr. Lloyd's resignation. It will be remembered that, when an information against Mr. Lloyd was filed in the Court of Chancery in 1717, Lord Chancellor Macclesfield decided that it was a breach of the school ordinances for the Head Master to hold a parochial cure with his mastership, and gave Mr. Lloyd six months to decide which he would resign, Shrewsbury School or the Vicarage of Sellack. It is almost impossible to suppose that, in spite of this decree, Mr. Lloyd had continued to hold the living of Sellack up to 1721, and Mr. Corbet Kynaston, M.P. for Shrewsbury, would hardly have said as he did in 1723, that the Corporation had "unjustly endeavoured to oblige him to resign," if that body had merely called upon Mr. Lloyd to obey the Lord Chancellor's decree in the matter of Sellack Vicarage. It is probable that the Corporation order, to which reference has been made, was passed with the object of representing the two Cathedral stalls, which Mr. Lloyd still held, as within the scope of the Lord Chancellor's decree. Two interesting letters written by Mr. Corbet Kynaston in 1723, which have recently been printed in *Shrewsbury Notes and Queries*, prove conclusively that for some time before Mr. Lloyd absolutely resigned it had



been notorious in Shrewsbury that the Corporation intended to install Mr. Hugh Owen as Head Master as soon as the post was vacant. It is also evident from what Mr. Kynaston says that the master and seniors of St. John's College were well aware of this design, and that Mr. Lloyd was negotiating both with the municipal leaders and also with Mr. William Clark, fellow of St. John's, whom his college proposed to nominate as the new Head Master, in order that he might obtain favourable terms for himself before he completed his resignation.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Kynaston's first letter was in answer to one which Mr. John Lloyd, the Head Master's son, had written to him from Shrewsbury on June 19th. From it we learn that the college had now, after some hesitation, come to the resolution to have recourse, if necessary, to the Law Courts to uphold its legal right to nominate masters against the Corporation. Mr. John Lloyd's chief objects in writing to his friend, Mr. Kynaston, seem to have been to explain to him the reasons why the negotiations between his father and Mr. Clark for the former's resignation had been broken off, and to ask his advice about certain terms of resignation which had been proposed to his father by Mr. Brickdale, the Mayor<sup>2</sup> of the previous year, apparently in behalf of the Corporation.<sup>3</sup> The Head Master appears to have been alarmed lest the Corporation should be able to carry out its threat of enforcing his resignation, and to have begun to think it might be better

<sup>1</sup> These letters are given in the Appendix. The first was written from London to Mr. John Lloyd, a barrister-at-law, and the son of the Head Master. It is dated June 25th, 1723. The second letter was addressed to the Rev. William Clark, M.A., and is dated June 29th, 1723. The original letters are in the possession of Mr. Adnitt, of Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Michael Brickdale was first appointed School Bailiff in 1708, and held the office till 1713. In that year he seems to have resigned, Mr. Thomas Hewitt being chosen in his room. But he was reappointed in 1717, and after that he continued Bailiff till 1754, when he was succeeded by Mr. Edward Cotton. In 1721 Mr. Brickdale was elected Mayor of Shrewsbury. He was a furrier by trade, according to Owen and Blakeway, but is described in the Shrewsbury Burgess Rolls in 1707 as a plateworker.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Kynaston, however, says that Mr. Brickdale used the name of the Corporation when proposing terms to Mr. Lloyd without any authority from that body.

for him to accept the proffered terms and resign in such manner and at such time as would best suit the convenience of the municipal authorities. Mr. Kynaston's answer is clear and distinct. The Corporation would not think of offering *terms* to the Head Master if its members believed they had the power of removing him from his place. Any terms offered by Mr. Brickdale must be looked upon with suspicion, as Shrewsbury rumours pointed to an engagement between Miss Brickdale and Mr. Hugh Owen, or rather to an engagement prospective on the intended bridegroom obtaining the head-mastership. Mr. Kynaston was decidedly of opinion that Mr. Lloyd could not in honour treat with the Corporation on any terms without the knowledge and consent of the college, and that he would expose himself to very unfavourable comments if he did so. The second letter, which was written four days later to the Rev. William Clark, does not throw much further light on the subject. It appears from it that Mr. Clark's difficulty in accepting Mr. Lloyd's proposed terms of resignation was that he was asked to give up *a certainty* in exchange for *a disputed title*, which he would have to defend at *his own expense*. The college, it must be remembered, had only just resolved to maintain its rights in the Law Courts. It is evident from his letters that Mr. Kynaston was firmly convinced that the course taken by the Corporation was calculated to injure the school and to be detrimental to *the public good*.

How Mr. Lloyd's negotiations with the Corporation ended it does not appear. But it seems probable that the suggestion made by Mr. Kynaston that he should formally give notice to the college of his desire to resign in favour of Mr. William Clark was not carried out, as the Mayor and Corporation would hardly have ventured to install Mr. Hugh Owen in the Head Master's room, as they did on July 2nd, unless Mr. Lloyd had previously placed in their hands an unconditional resignation of his office. Of Mr. Clark's intellectual capacity his position as fellow of St. John's College and his published works are sufficient evidence. The only witnesses to Mr. Owen's abilities and fitness are certain anonymous "persons

of learning and distinction, whose understanding and integrity rendered them as able, fit, and proper judges of choosing masters as the college of St. John's," who were stated by the Corporation to have approved the appointment.<sup>1</sup>

The college authorities had, as Mr. Kynaston told Mr. John Lloyd, resolved to take legal proceedings to uphold their right to nominate masters, and they filed a bill in the Court of Exchequer against the Corporation and Mr. Owen. But three years elapsed before a decree was issued by the Court in favour of the plaintiffs.<sup>2</sup> The decision of the judges appears to have been unanimous. Mr. Owen was displaced, the college was ordered to elect a fit person under the ordinances, and the defendants were condemned in costs. But on January 13th, 172<sup>6</sup>/<sub>7</sub>, the Corporation resolved to make one further effort and to appeal to the House of Lords.

The appeal was heard after a comparatively short delay, and on February 28th, 172<sup>6</sup>/<sub>7</sub>, the Exchequer decree was affirmed by a majority of thirty-two to fifteen. A further motion was then made on behalf of the appellants that nothing in the resolution just passed should prejudice the right of the Corporation under the Charter of Edward VI. to make such additional ordinances as might be thought necessary. But this motion was negatived by the same majority as before.<sup>3</sup>

In the meantime Mr. Hugh Owen<sup>4</sup> had been carrying on the work of the school, but we can hardly imagine that under existing circumstances the four years during which he was

<sup>1</sup> See ADNITT and NAUNTON's *History of Shrewsbury School*.

<sup>2</sup> The case came on for hearing on May 16th, 1726.

<sup>3</sup> A fairly complete account of the proceedings in the lawsuit is to be found both in the *Hotchkiss MSS.* and the *Blakeway MSS.* It is impossible to trace the amount of school money wasted by the Corporation in their renewed efforts to set aside the school ordinances, as it had become the practice for a considerable time, doubtless by direction of that body, to lump together in the school accounts under the head of "necessary expenses" many items which it might have been inconvenient to particularise. But several of the sums entered under the head of "necessary expenses" between 1725 and 1730 are significantly large.

<sup>4</sup> *Hugh Owen* is described in the Shrewsbury burgess-book as "of Salop, clerk." Blakeway says he was son of Owen Roberts, gentleman, of Llanadron, Carnarvonshire. He matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, on December 18th, 1710, as pleb. fil., aged sixteen, and graduated B.A. on February 26th, 171<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.



*de facto* Head Master were prosperous years for Shrewsbury. It is said that when Mr. Lloyd resigned there were only sixteen boys left in the school,<sup>1</sup> and although it seems unfair that its decline in numbers and the loss of its former reputation should have been ascribed by the college counsel to Mr. Owen's appointment,<sup>2</sup> the facts they mention show at any rate that little or no improvement can have been effected by him on the deplorable condition in which Mr. Lloyd left the school.

Robert Phillips, D.D., 1727-1735.

While the suits between St. John's College and the Corporation were pending, Mr. Clark<sup>3</sup> was presented by Archbishop

<sup>1</sup> See COLLINS'S *Public Schools*.

<sup>2</sup> Blakeway says that it was stated in the bill filed by the college in the Court of Exchequer that "the school was very much decreased and had lost its former reputation." (*Blakeway MSS.*)

<sup>3</sup> *William Clark* was son of Richard Clark, of Downton, near Shrewsbury. He was born in 1695, and after leaving Shrewsbury School was admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 5th, 1714, aged seventeen. He graduated B.A. in 1715 and M.A. in 1719, and on January 21st, 1719, was elected fellow in the place of a nonjuror. For a short time before the death of Bishop Adam Ottley, of St. David's, in 1723, Mr. Clark acted as his chaplain, and he subsequently became domestic chaplain to Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle. He obtained the living of Buxted on the recommendation of Dr. Wootton, whose daughter he married. His father-in-law's treatise, entitled *Leges Walliæ*, to which he contributed a Latin preface, was given by Mr. Clark to the school library in 1736. In 1738 he was made a Prebendary of Chichester. In 1767 he published *The Connection of the Roman, Saxon, and English Coins*, and in the following year resigned Buxted by permission of the Archbishop in favour of his son, the Rev. Edward Clark. In 1770 he was made Chancellor of Chichester, and obtained with his new office the rectories of Chillingley and Pevensy. He died October 21st, 1771, and was buried in the Cathedral. Hayley speaks of the "engaging mildness of his manner and countenance," and Bishop Huntingford testifies to his "exquisite taste and diversity of erudition." His letters, several of which are given by Nichol, show humour, ability, and research. An epigram, written by Mr. Clark in allusion to the words *Domus Ultima*, inscribed on the vault of the Dukes of Richmond in Chichester Cathedral, is worth quoting:—

"Did he, who thus inscribed the wall,  
Not read or not believe St. Paul,  
Who says there is, where'er it stands,  
Another house not made with hands,  
Or may we gather from these words,  
That house is not a House of Lords?"

(See NICHOL'S *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. iv., and the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



Wake to the Rectory of Buxted in Sussex, and he did not care to give up his living in order to go to Shrewsbury. Failing him the college selected the Rev. Robert Phillips, D.D., Vicar of Kinlet, Shropshire, and official of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, who was formally admitted on June 19th, 1727. Dr. Phillips was a native of the town and had been educated at Shrewsbury. But he was already fifty-seven years old, and was not likely at that age to restore the fallen fortunes of the school.

Of his mastership, which only lasted eight years, absolutely nothing is known beyond the fact that, though holding the office of catechist and receiving its stipend, Dr. Phillips<sup>1</sup> did not either say the daily prayers in chapel nor catechise the boys.<sup>2</sup> A Welsh poet of some little note, named Rice Jones,<sup>3</sup> appears to have been at Shrewsbury in his time. But that is all that can be said about his pupils. Shortly after the appointment of Dr. Phillips Mr. Rowland Tench, who had been twenty-seven years at Shrewsbury, resigned the second-mastership, and the Rev. Leonard Hotchkis was promoted to fill the vacancy. On November 23rd, 1728, the college authorities elected Mr. Humphrey Johnson,<sup>4</sup> one of their own graduates, as third master. His father, Mr. Joshua Johnson, had been accident master at Shrewsbury from 1706 to 1713. Dr. Phillips died on October 11th, 1735.

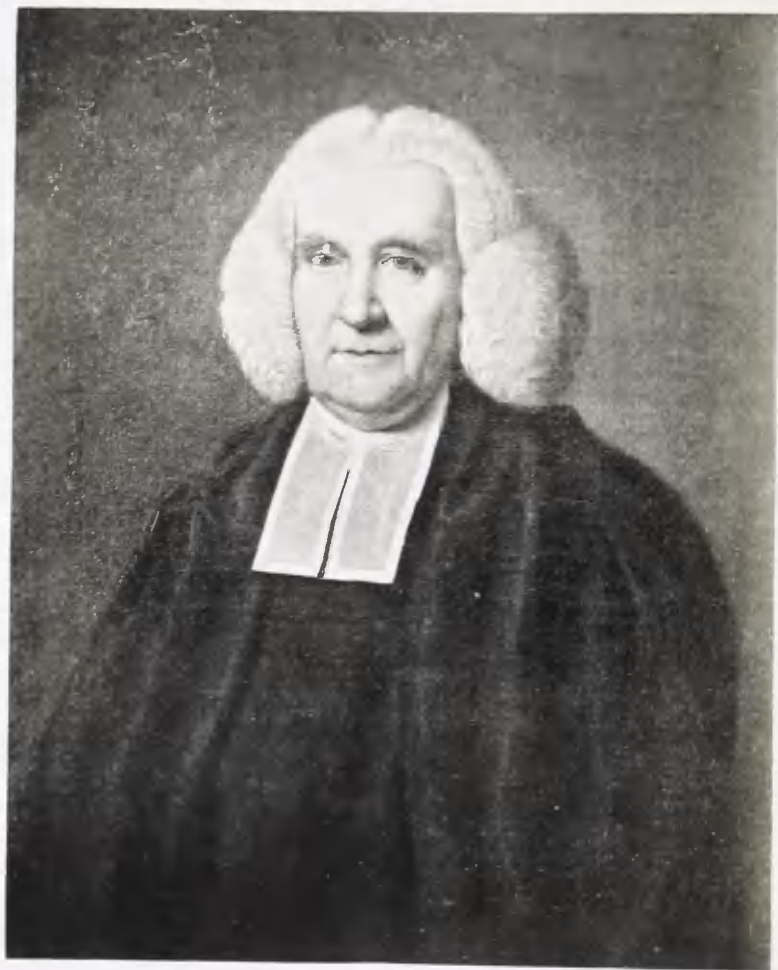
<sup>1</sup> *Robert Phillips* was son of Mr. James Phillips, of Frankwell, mercer, and grandson of Mr. Robert Phillips, of Cruckmeole, gentleman. He graduated at Christ Church, Oxford; B.A. on January 19th, 1691; M.A. on March 6th, 1692; and B.D. and D.D. on April 13th, 1700. In 1696 he was presented to the Vicarage of Kinlet by Thomas Childe, Esq., whose widow, Sarah, daughter of Sir Edward Acton, of Aldenham, Bart., he afterwards married as his second wife. On September 16th, 1717, Dr. Phillips was appointed official of St. Mary's. He resigned Kinlet on his appointment to Shrewsbury School, but retained his post at St. Mary's. While living in Shrewsbury Dr. Phillips built the house on St. John's Hill, which was subsequently occupied by Roger Kynaston, Esq. (*Blakeway MSS.*)

<sup>2</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>3</sup> *Rice Jones*, eldest son of John Jones, Esq., of Blaenau, Merionethshire, was born in 1713, and educated first at Dolgelley and afterwards at Shrewsbury. He was intended for the legal profession, but gave up the idea on the death of his father, and settled down at Blaenau as a country gentleman. He died in 1801. His poems were published in 1811. (*WILLIAMS'S Eminent Welshmen.*)

<sup>4</sup> *Humphrey Johnson* graduated B.A. in 1727 and M.A. in 1731.





LEONARD HOTCHKIS  
HEAD MASTER 1735-1754

## CHAPTER XI.

Leonard Hotchkis, M.A., Head Master, 1735-1754.

WHEN Dr. Phillips died, on October 11th, 1735, Leonard Hotchkis was at once made Head Master. As we have seen in a former chapter, he had returned, shortly after taking his degree at St. John's College, Cambridge, to be accident master in his old school. From that post he had risen in succession to be third master and second master. And now, after twenty-two years' work, he succeeds to the highest place. The Deputy Mayor, William Tourneur, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> cannot have lost much time in obtaining the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry to his promotion, for, on October 17th, in less than a week after the death of Dr. Phillips, Leonard Hotchkis was formally put in possession of the Head Master's room. His work began under somewhat gloomy conditions. He found only eighteen boys in the highest school, and in the school he had left there were but thirty-three; the third school had only twenty-five, and the accident school only nine. On the day that Mr. Hotchkis was admitted Mr. Johnson, the third master, "withdrew himself from the school," and, nine or ten days later, he sent in his formal resignation by letter.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Mayor was Sir Richard Corbett, of Longnor, Bart., who probably did not reside in Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> *Leonard Hotchkis* was the son of Mr. Richard Hotchkis, of Chirbury. He was born on August 30th, 1691 (*Blakeway MSS.*), and was admitted sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, on June 9th, 1709, aged eighteen. He graduated B.A. in 1712 and M.A. in 1716. His brother, the Rev. Richard Hotchkis, Rector of St. George's, Barbados, whose wife was buried at St. Mary's in 1742, is mentioned in a correspondence between Mr. Richard Gough and the Rev. J. B. Blakeway towards the end of the eighteenth century. Richard Hotchkis



Disappointment that the Mayor and Head Master, instead of promoting him to the second-mastership, had sent notice of the vacancy to St. John's College, was probably the cause of his resignation. The master and seniors selected, as their first choice for the second school, the Rev. John Mall,<sup>1</sup> one of their fellows, and Head Master of the Grammar School at Bishop's Stortford. But he, after some months' hesitation, determined to stay on at Bishop's Stortford, and the college then elected the Rev. Mansfield Price,<sup>2</sup> M.A., another of their fellows, and a former scholar of Shrewsbury.

Before the vacancy was filled up a difference had occurred between the Head Master and the Deputy Mayor, who, in conjunction with Mr. Brickdale,<sup>3</sup> brought into the school on January 24th, to act as temporary master till the second-mastership should be filled up, a certain Mr. Podmore, contrary to the Head Master's wishes, and against his consent. Hotchkis naturally thought that the Head Master ought to have some voice in the selection of temporary substitutes when a mastership happened to be vacant. But he gave way on this occasion, noting, however, in his diary his resolve never to do so again. Almost immediately afterwards a fresh difference, and one of more serious character, arose between the Head Master and the Corporation. By the death of Dr. Phillips the office of official of St. Mary's Church, which he had held for eighteen years, had become vacant. For many years after the foundation of the school this office had always gone with the curacy of St. Mary's, to which the Head Master and Bailiffs up to 1634, and the Head Master and Mayor after that date, had the legal

was then living in London, and was, as Gough believed, connected with the Charterhouse. Probably he was one of the "old codd's." (See NICHOL'S *Literary Illustrations*, vol. v.) Richard Hotchkis was a benefactor to the school library in 1757.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Mall was a Shropshire man, and had been, we may safely assume, educated at Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Mansfield Price was nominated by the college on February 6th, 1735, and was admitted to the second room on March 11th by the Deputy Mayor.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Brickdale was a leading member of the Corporation, who had been Mayor in 1721-22, and was now School Bailiff. He had been the chief actor in the Hugh Owen business.

right to appoint. The first official, who was not also curate of St. Mary's, was Mr. Pigott, the puritan Head Master, who was appointed in 1651. Since that time the office had been sometimes held by clergymen, and sometimes by laymen, but never again by the curate of St. Mary's. In 1717 the members of the Corporation set up an absurd claim to appoint the official without any reference either to the Mayor or to the Head Master, and formally elected the Rev. Lawrence Gardner. But they do not seem to have continued the struggle any longer after Dr. Phillips had been duly appointed by the legal electors.<sup>1</sup> On his death, however, when the post again became vacant, the claims of the Corporation were asserted in a much more objectionable fashion. On March 30th, 1736, Mr. Brickdale<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Baskerville brought to the Head Master the draft of a lease of the official's place, which the Corporation proposed to grant to Mr. Ryder for the term of twenty-one years at the annual rent of 40s., and asked for his signature; but they refused to leave it for his further consideration. It is impossible to regard this proposed lease of the official's place as anything but barefaced jobbery.<sup>3</sup> Whether Mr. Hotchkis looked at the matter in this light or not is not apparent. His assigned reason for refusing to join in executing the lease was that his immediate predecessor had been the official. He evidently was of opinion that there was no good reason why he should not hold the office just as it had been held before by Mr. Pigott and

<sup>1</sup> On the occasion of Dr. Phillips's election the Mayor was William Kynaston, Esq., a graduate of St. John's College, Cambridge, and a barrister-at-law, a man unlikely to be influenced by those motives which seem unhappily so often to have swayed the ordinary members of the Shrewsbury Corporation. His father was William Kynaston, Esq., of Ryton, Salop. He had been at Shrewsbury School in Mr. Lloyd's time, and was admitted at St. John's College on June 16th, 1698, aged seventeen, graduating subsequently, B.A. in 1703 and M.A. in 1707.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Michael Brickdale, no doubt.

<sup>3</sup> To seek the Head Master's signature for the lease was practically to acknowledge his legal rights with regard to the appointment of officials, and it is hardly possible to suppose that the men, who were prepared to squander the school money in hopeless efforts to maintain the untenable claims of the Corporation, proposed to lease the office for the pecuniary benefit of the school.

Dr. Phillips. But, on finding that the Corporation was determined on carrying out its scheme of jobbery by leasing the place to Mr. Ryder, the Head Master, feeling doubtless that his position would be stronger if he made it impossible for it to be alleged that his conduct was influenced by any mercenary motives, joined with Sir Richard Corbett, the Mayor, in electing Mr. John Lloyd, barrister-at-law, son of a former Head Master, as official of St. Mary's. The Corporation, acting without the Mayor, went through the form of electing Mr. Ryder, and resolutions passed by that body during the next three years show the lengths some of its members were prepared to go in their corrupt and dishonest employment of the school funds.<sup>1</sup>

In 1737 a Corporation order was voted that £10 should be taken from the school-chest towards the establishment of Mr. Ryder's claims. In 1738 another resolution was passed that proceedings should be taken against Mr. Lloyd, the duly elected official, at the expense of the school revenue. And in 1739 there is a third order on record that £10 more should be taken for the same purpose. Mr. Blakeway states that these sums were actually expended by the School Bailiff, Mr. Michael Brickdale, by order of the Corporation, and there is no doubt that the Head Master protested formally sometime during the year 1737 against this misapplication of school funds by the Corporation. In the course of the year 1739 the controversy came to an end, Mr. John Morton, the counsel for whose opinion a case had been submitted by the Corporation, having advised that that body was wholly in the wrong.<sup>2</sup> But four years later the struggle was recommenced in a new form, only this time the Corporation had the support of the Mayor, Mr. William Turner, jun., a draper of Shrewsbury. Mr. John Lloyd, a former fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and nephew of Mr. Richard Lloyd, sometime Head Master, who had

<sup>1</sup> See Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,024.

<sup>2</sup> The account given in the text of the dispute about the office of official at St. Mary's is taken, partly from the *Hoickhis MSS.*, and partly from the MSS. in the British Museum before quoted.



been curate of St. Mary's since June, 1715, died on May 16th, 1743. The Mayor and the Head Master were unable to agree in their choice of his successor. The Mayor advocated the claims of the Rev. Benjamin Wingfield, who had been appointed public preacher by the Corporation, but had never been allowed by the late curate of St. Mary's to enter the pulpit. The Head Master urged that Mr. Wingfield did not possess the statutable qualification of having been educated at Shrewsbury School, but expressed his willingness to join the Mayor in nominating the most worthy among several old Shrewsbury boys who were duly qualified in accordance with the school ordinances. As a matter of fact, Mr. Wingfield had been at Shrewsbury School for rather more than a year, some time between 1715 and 1723, but he had been removed to Wem Grammar School when still quite young on account of the unsatisfactory condition of Shrewsbury School at that time. The Mayor, supported by the Corporation generally, insisted on nominating Mr. Wingfield, and the Head Master followed suit by nominating, with the same formality, Mr. Lloyd,<sup>1</sup> a graduate of St. John's College, Cambridge, whose legal qualifications were undisputed. Mr. Hotchkis submitted a case for the opinion of counsel, putting three questions for consideration:—

(1) Was Wingfield qualified as a scholar of Shrewsbury, having left that school some years before his school education was complete?

(2) Would the Head Master's nomination of Lloyd hold good in the event of Wingfield being pronounced unqualified?

(3) What was the best course to take under the circumstances?

The opinion of the counsel consulted was that Mr. Wingfield was not qualified in accordance with the school ordinances, and that, the two electors having disagreed in their choice, the Courts would probably hold that the election had lapsed to the Crown.

<sup>1</sup> This may possibly have been Mr. Moses Lloyd, who was elected fellow of St. John's College on March 29th, 1726, and was a Shropshire man.



Mr. Lloyd subsequently took proceedings in the Court of Chancery with the view of getting his claim established. But the Lord Chancellor held, as counsel had thought probable, that the right of presentation had lapsed to the Crown, and about January, 174 $\frac{3}{4}$ , he nominated the Rev. Benjamin Wingfield. The relations between the Head Master and the Corporation had been strained from the first.

Up to the time of the consecration of the school chapel in 1617, a regular stipend had been paid to the curate of St. Mary's for catechising the boys. But as soon as the school possessed a chapel of its own the curate ceased to perform this duty, and the Rev. John Foorde was appointed catechist at a salary of £20 per annum.<sup>1</sup> The Head Master at this time was, we must bear in mind, a layman. The first Head Master who filled the office of catechist was Chaloner, and all his successors, down to Hotchkis, had received the stipend of catechist as a matter of course. But soon after Hotchkis became Head Master—a few days before the November audit of 1736—a resolution was passed by the Corporation that £20 should be allowed to Mr. Hotchkis, the chief schoolmaster, for catechising and reading prayers.<sup>2</sup> The motive for the resolution in question was palpable enough to the Head Master. He held, and no doubt correctly, that the catechist was a recognized school official with a fixed stipend of £20 a year. He also considered, and not unnaturally, that he had a prescriptive right to the post, which had been occupied by all his predecessors for one hundred years. On that supposition Mr. Hotchkis had, from the time of his becoming Head Master, said prayers in chapel morning and evening, and catechised the boys every Saturday after school. But the municipal authorities thought that by paying the Head Master for *catechising* the boys, and not as catechist, they would hold *in terrorem* over him the power of allowing or disallowing each year

<sup>1</sup> The payment of £20 a year for catechising the boys, and, inferentially, the office of catechist, received the sanction of the Court of Chancery in a decree of 1623. (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

<sup>2</sup> This resolution was passed on November 11th, 1736. (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

no less than one-fourth part of his income. The matter does not seem to have been discussed at the annual audit on November 16th, 1736. But when the School Bailiff paid him the full stipend of £80 Mr. Hotchkis took the precaution of giving separate receipts for £60 as Head Master and £20 as catechist. A year later an occurrence took place which shows how correctly he had gauged the object which the Corporation had in view. Some time before the November audit of 1737 he had thought it his duty, as Head Master and joint trustee of the school property, to protest formally against the employment of school funds by Mr. Michael Brickdale, the School Bailiff, by direction of the Corporation, in order, if possible, to oust Mr. Lloyd from his office as official of St. Mary's, to which he had been duly elected, in 1736, by the Mayor and Head Master.<sup>1</sup> The result was that, when the audit took place on November 16th, 1737, the Mayor stopped the payment of £20 out of the Head Master's stipend. Hotchkis, however, refused to accept the reduced sum of £60 which was tendered him by the School Bailiff at the Mayor's orders. A few days afterwards the Head Master received a copy of a resolution passed by the Corporation on November 22nd, to the effect that the £20 should be paid him for the past year on condition that he disclaimed in writing all claim to the stipend for the future, until he had been formally admitted to the office of catechist. This proposition was fair enough, and, as Hotchkis does not again refer to the subject, it is probable that he complied with the suggestion of the Corporation, and that his formal appointment as catechist was subsequently made out. It is only fair to add that for our knowledge of these matters we are almost entirely dependent on Hotchkis's own records, and although the line taken by the Corporation was manifestly illegal, and the conduct of the Mayor at the audit of 1737 shows plainly enough the chief motives which influenced its members, we must bear in mind that Dr. Phillips, the immediate predecessor of Mr. Hotchkis as Head Master, does not appear either to have said the

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.* and *Blakeway MSS.*

daily prayers in chapel or to have catechised the boys,<sup>1</sup> and that the Mayor and others may have been partly actuated by a desire to prevent, if possible, the recurrence of such a scandal.<sup>2</sup>

It has been mentioned that Mr. Humphrey Johnson, the third master, resigned his office in the latter part of October, 1735. On the 24th of the following month the Rev. John Brickdale, B.A., of St. John's College, was nominated by the master and seniors to fill his place.

Mr. Mansfield Price did not long retain the second-mastership. On October 8th, 1737, he attended school for the last time, and on November 8th the Rev. Humphrey Parry,<sup>3</sup> M.A., fellow of St. John's College, was admitted in his room.

The three senior masters had shown their interest in the school in 1736 by a joint present to the library of £9 5s., a large sum, comparatively speaking, in those days. But the number of scholars continued small, and the constant interference of the Corporation in school matters must have been very troublesome. Masters, at any rate, showed no inclination to remain long at their posts. On November 21st, 1737, Hotchkis notes, Mr. Brickdale came to school to say that "he would teach no more." The college, however, soon found a successor, and on November 21st Mr. Arthur Vaughan, B.A., another member of the college, was admitted as third master.<sup>4</sup>

Although the school registers in Hotchkis's time, and, indeed, for the whole of the eighteenth century, are lost, it so happens that Hotchkis copied out in one of his MSS.

<sup>1</sup> See *Hotchkis MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> This cannot have been their *only* reason. When the Mayor stopped the catechist's stipend, on November 16th, 1737, it certainly was not on account of the Head Master's neglect of the duties of that office, which Hotchkis had regularly performed from the day of his admittance. (*Hotchkis MSS.*)

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Humphrey Parry was a native of Montgomeryshire.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Vaughan resigned on September 30th, 1740, and was succeeded by Mr. John Brooke, B.A., of St. John's College, who was nominated by the master and seniors on October 8th, and formally admitted to the third room on October 15th by Edward Twiss, Esq., the Mayor of Shrewsbury. In 1754 Mr. Brooke was promoted to the second-mastership. He was in holy orders and held the rectory of Upton Parva together with his mastership, retaining both offices till his death on November 29th, 1763. He was buried at St. Mary's, where there is a monument to his memory.



the names of the boys whom he admitted at Shrewsbury from 1734 to 1745, and the schools in which they were respectively placed. In the dearth of information as to the inner history of the school at this time the number of names as entered in each of these years is worth recording.

Year.	Entries.	First School.	Second School.	Third School.
1734	22	0	7	15
1735	28	3	1	24
1736	23	0	2	21
1737	31	6	12	13
1738	33	7	7	19
1739	29	8	9	12
1740	16	4	1	11
1741	27	8	6	13
1742	29	5	4	20
1743	14	2	4	8
1744	12	2	2	8
1745	14	5	2	7

This table tells its own tale. The school numbers, which in the days of Ashton and Lawrence and Chaloner had often exceeded 400, and had sometimes risen to 600,<sup>1</sup> were now fallen to 100 or less, and towards the latter part of the time covered by these lists it is evident that they were still further dwindling. Five years later we have Hotchkis's own evidence that by that time matters had become nearly as bad as they could be.

Writing on August 1st, 1750, he says, "I have had but two or three boys a year from Mr. Parry for some years past, and I do not see more than seven or eight in his school now who ought to be in mine. It is a melancholy state to be in, and I wish to get out of it."<sup>2</sup>

Four years later Mr. Hotchkis resigned, though he continued to reside within sight of the school gardens till his

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Collins quotes from MARMADUKE RAWDON's *Journal*, published by the Camden Society, a description of Shrewsbury as "a fair free schoole in which are four masters, and there are sometimes 600 scholars, and a handsome library thereto belonging." This was written in 1665. (COLLINS's *Public Schools*.)

<sup>2</sup> See COLLINS's *Public Schools*.



death.<sup>1</sup> For many years he had been on intimate terms of friendship with "Demosthenes Taylor." Both of them had been at Shrewsbury School under Andrew Taylor, though not at the same time, Taylor being the younger by thirteen years.

It was at Taylor's instigation that Leonard Hotchkis undertook a new edition of *Hephæstion*,<sup>2</sup> a work of which Professor Gaisford spoke highly in 1810, acknowledging that he had borrowed many things from it. Hotchkis published in London, while still third master, a book of extracts, *Excerpta miscellanea ex probatissimis linguæ Romanæ autoribus. In usum Scholæ Salopiensis*. But it is evident enough that the Head Master's chief delight lay in antiquarian pursuits. He left to the school library four volumes of MSS., consisting chiefly of transcripts or abstracts of important documents relating to school affairs which, in his days, were still in the school-chest, but many of which have now disappeared.

We learn from Archdeacon Owen that in 1808 these four volumes of *Hotchkis MSS.* were "unfortunately missing," although three of them had been in the possession of the Rev. J. B. Blakeway in 1802.<sup>3</sup> The fourth volume, from which Mr. Blakeway had made extracts some time previously, had already disappeared by that time. Within the last few years all four volumes have been unexpectedly discovered in Shrewsbury,<sup>4</sup> and they are now happily

<sup>1</sup> He resigned on July 2nd, 1754, and died on November 12th, 1771, at the age of eighty. Blakeway says that he was appointed Incumbent of Battlefield, near Shrewsbury, in 1749. This cure he seems to have retained till his death.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Hotchkis made a complete transcript of *Hephæstion*, with various readings, a Latin version, and numerous notes. It was to have been printed at Oxford in 1768 under the care of Mr. Barclay of Balliol College. But Mr. Barclay died, and the manuscript disappeared until, many years afterwards, it was found by Dr. Charles Burney at an obscure bookshop in London. It was on this volume that Professor Gaisford based his edition of *Hephæstion*. (See letter from Mr. Gaisford to Dr. S. Butler in Add. MSS. British Museum, No. 34,583.)

<sup>3</sup> On June 19th, 1802, Mr. Blakeway, writing to Mr. Richard Gough, mentioned that he had at the time three of these volumes in his possession, but that the fourth volume, from which he had made extracts, was missing, although he hoped it was not lost. (NICHOL'S *Literary Illustrations*, vol. v.)

<sup>4</sup> Three volumes were found in the Town Hall, and the fourth was bought at a sale by Mr. Adnitt, of Shrewsbury, who presented it to the Reference Library. A replica of one of these four volumes has also been found.

located in the public Reference Library in the old school buildings.

Hotchkis also left behind him a wonderful commonplace book, which is said to contain 100,000 references on the most miscellaneous subjects. Industrious, conscientious, scholarly, and, like Meighen, a staunch defender of the school ordinances as well as its revenues, Hotchkis certainly was. But, as Head Master, he did not succeed in raising Shrewsbury from the low estate to which it had fallen in the time of his immediate predecessors.

Whether he failed as a teacher and disciplinarian, or whether his want of success was due more to external causes than to any fault of his, it is impossible now to say. His affection for Shrewsbury School is beyond a doubt. As boy and master he was connected with it for more than fifty years, and the sense of his failure as Head Master to revive its past glories must have embittered the closing years of his life.<sup>1</sup>

As to his various disputes with the Corporation of Shrewsbury we may say with confidence that in every case Mr. Hotchkis was both legally and morally in the right. Certainly the protest, which he made in 1737 against the iniquitous system which had been so long practised by the Corporation, of paying out of school funds the legal expenses of the many futile attempts its members had made to get the complete management of school affairs into their hands, was honest

<sup>1</sup> Some reminiscences of "Demosthenes Taylor," signed F. F., but which were manifestly written by the Rev. George Ashby, are given in NICHOL'S *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. iv. Mr. Ashby says that he had dined once or twice at Dr. Taylor's house in Ave Maria Lane, and speaks of the "hospitality and generosity" of his entertainments as "munificent." But he adds that his table was "too open to all comers, some of whom were the dullest companions possible," and that one of these, whom he thought to have been a schoolmaster, "was of all men I ever met with the stupidest." Considering the intimate relations which existed between Leonard Hotchkis and Taylor it is highly probable that Mr. Collins is right in identifying the former with this "schoolmaster." But he goes on to suggest that "perhaps those interminable manuscripts had muddled his faculties." Surely it is more reasonable to suppose that disappointed hopes and a keen sense of failure had depressed his spirits, and made him silent in company and little inclined to draw upon his vast stores of general information for the entertainment of his companions.

and courageous. Even Meighen, after the costly and exasperating defeat which he sustained in 1613, in his attempt to uphold the school ordinances and defend its revenues from wasteful or corrupt expenditure, by the decision of the Court of Chancery, did not again venture to resist such glaring misappropriations of school funds as those which took place in 1616-17 and 1618-19.<sup>1</sup> The last incident in Hotchkis's time of which we have any record occurred in 1748. The endowments of Shrewsbury School were mainly composed of the tithes originally belonging to the parishes of St. Mary, St. Chad, and Chirbury, and the chapelries of Astley and Clive.

Mention has already been made of the prolonged struggles on the part of the inhabitants of Chirbury and Clive to obtain a larger income for their ministers out of the school endowments. And now came St. Mary's turn, although the fact that the well-endowed public preachiership had for many years been attached to the cure of St. Mary's made the claims of that parish on the school revenues less pressing than those of the other parishes and chapelries with which the school was connected. In January, 1758, Mr. Benjamin Wingfield, the curate of St. Mary's, presented a petition to the Court of Chancery, asking for an increase of his stipend out of the school funds. His application was opposed by the Head Master, who pleaded in answer that Mr. John Okell, alderman of Shrewsbury, had given in 1591 about £500 for the maintenance of a public preachiership, to which the Corporation had subsequently added £100, which was obtained by the creation of twenty-two new burgesses, and that from the rent-charge which was purchased with this £600 the curate of St. Mary's had enjoyed, as public preacher, an annual stipend of £53 16s. 8d. To this stipend a further

<sup>1</sup> See Chapter V. In the extracts which Hotchkis gives from the school account-book he notes that Mr. George Wright and Mr. Owen George, the Bailiffs of 1632-33, retained in their possession £105 os. 6½d., of which they gave no account when they left office. Two years later, when called upon to explain this expenditure, they "plainly made it appear" that the money had been laid out in reparations, travelling, riding, lawsuits, etc.



addition of £20 per annum had been made in 1620, arising out of the rent of lands purchased with Mr. Richard Wyn's bequest of £300. Up to 1735, as Mr. Hotchkis alleged, the whole of this income had been paid to the curate of St. Mary's, in addition to the stipend of £20 which he received from the school trustees. In that year, however, Mr. John Lloyd, who then held the curacy of St. Mary's, was appointed Rector of Berrington by the University of Cambridge. The town authorities, considering his necessary residence at Berrington to be incompatible with the regular residence in Shrewsbury which was expected from the public preacher, withheld from Mr. Lloyd £20 of the income attached to his office. But they went much further in 1739, and, on the ground that Mr. Lloyd had forfeited all claim to his office, appointed the Rev. Benjamin Wingfield to be public preacher, paying him £20 per annum, and keeping the remaining £53 16s. 8d. in their own hands. The Head Master's final plea was that Mr. Wingfield was in collusion with the Corporation to relieve funds administered by that body at the expense of the school. If this account be correct, and there seems no reason to doubt it, the charge made by Hotchkis against Mr. Wingfield and the Corporation was amply justified.<sup>1</sup> But Mr. Wingfield's petition was successful,<sup>2</sup> and, as usual, the school funds suffered largely. In the accounts for 1752-53 there is an entry of £316 14s. as "paid to several persons" for "costs of Mr. Wingfield's petition by order of Chancery," a sum which must have been enormously in excess of the real costs. It is important too to notice that

<sup>1</sup> As Mr. Lloyd does not seem to have taken any steps to compel the Corporation to pay him the stipend attached to the office of public preacher after 1739, it may be assumed that that body had the legal power of depriving him. Sir Richard Wilbraham too had given the opinion that the whole income of £73 16s. 8d. was attached to the public preachership. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,024.) The gravamen of Hotchkis's charge was that since Mr. Wingfield's appointment the Corporation had kept in its own hands a portion of the income which belonged to the public preachership.

<sup>2</sup> The first mention of the increased stipend of the curate of St. Mary's occurs in 1752. In that year £40 additional was paid him, £20 of which was to count as arrears of the increase of stipend for the previous year. Hitherto, from 1578, the curate had received £20 a year from the school trustees.



in the accounts for the previous year there appears an item of no less a sum than £549 1s. 5d. as having been paid for "necessary expenses and business of the school," no particulars being given.<sup>1</sup>

So far as can be judged from the names of the boys in Hotchkis's list of entries from 1734 to 1745, and the matriculation entries of such of them as proceeded to Oxford and Cambridge, the large majority of his pupils were natives of Shrewsbury or Shropshire. Few among them appear to have attained high distinction in after life. The most eminent of them all probably was Edward Waring, M.D., F.R.S., a native of Fitz, a village in Shropshire, who graduated at Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1757, and was appointed two years afterwards to the Lucasian professorship of mathematics, a post which he retained for thirty-eight years. Waring's degree was considered so brilliant that the whole body of his fellow-wrangers called on him in his rooms to offer him their congratulations. Waring invited them all to tea, and his entertainment was the origin of the society known at Cambridge as "The Hyson Club."<sup>2</sup>

Mr. John Maddox, K.C., a Chancery barrister of considerable repute, who sat in Parliament for the borough of Westbury from 1786 to 1790, was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1735.

<sup>1</sup> The "bill of particulars" is said in the accounts to "remain" in the school-chest. This form of entry had now been in use for many years. But the amounts entered under the head of "necessary expenses" in previous years had been for the most part comparatively small. The largest among them, which occurs in the accounts for 1729, is £132 17s. 6d. The entry of such an enormous sum as £549 without any particulars is a most suspicious circumstance, especially as it cannot include "repairs to houses, etc.," which always appear under a different head in the annual accounts.

<sup>2</sup> *Edward Waring*, eldest son of Mr. John Waring, was born in 1734, and went up to Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1754, with a Millington exhibition. He took his M.D. degree in 1767, and in 1771 his name appears in the list of physicians to Addenbrooke's Hospital at Cambridge. About this time he was in practice as a physician at St. Ives. In 1776 he married Mary, daughter of Mr. William Oswell, a draper of Shrewsbury, who was Mayor in 1769. Soon after this Dr. Waring went to reside at Shrewsbury, moving after a few years to his own estate at Plealey, where he died on August 15th, 1798. He was buried at Fitz, where there is a monument to his memory. Professor Waring was a benefactor to the school library in 1760. (See *Blakeway MSS.* and *COLLINS'S History of the Public Schools.*)

Sir Watkin Lewes,<sup>1</sup> who was born about 1736, was also at Shrewsbury in Hotchkis's time. He became an alderman of London and M.P. for the City, and at one time made rather a noise in the world. But ultimately he fell into want and died within the Rules of the Fleet.

Charles Newling and James Atcherley, who followed Hotchkis as Head Masters of Shrewsbury, were both at school under him, and so also were Rowland Wingfield, Esq.,<sup>2</sup> of Onslow Park and Preston Brockhurst, and Thomas Powys, Esq.,<sup>3</sup> of Great Berwick, both of whom filled the office of High Sheriff of Shropshire.

Among the pupils of Hotchkis who obtained some academical distinction were the Rev. Edward Edwards,<sup>4</sup> D.D., fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; the Rev. Borlase Wingfield, M.A.,<sup>5</sup> fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; the Rev. John Wingfield, M.A.,<sup>6</sup> fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford; the Rev. Jonathan Downes, M.A.,<sup>7</sup> fellow of St.

<sup>1</sup> *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> *Rowland Wingfield* was son of Borlase Wingfield, Esq., of Preston Brockhurst. He entered Shrewsbury in 1737 in the second school. On October 16th, 1746, he matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, aged eighteen. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir William Bagot, of Blithfield, Staffordshire, and usually resided at the Council House in Shrewsbury. Sheriff of Shropshire 1753. Died 1818. Benefactor to school library in 1761. (See *BLAKEWAY'S Sheriffs.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Thomas Powys*, eldest son of Thomas Powys, Esq., of Great Berwick, was placed in the second school in 1742. Benefactor to school library in 1760. Sheriff of Shropshire in 1762.

<sup>4</sup> *Edward Edwards*, son of Lewis Edwards, Esq., of Talgarth, Merionethshire. Placed in second school, 1738; matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, May 9th, 1743, aged seventeen; B.A., 1747; M.A., 1749; B.D., 1756; M.A., 1760; fellow of his college. Benefactor to school library in 1757.

<sup>5</sup> *Borlase Wingfield*, son of Borlase Wingfield, Esq., of Preston Brockhurst. Placed in second school, 1737; B.A., 1752; M.A., 1755; Rector of Lopham, Norfolk. Benefactor to school library in 1761.

<sup>6</sup> *John Tombes Wingfield*, son of John Wingfield, Esq., M.D., of Shrewsbury. Placed in third school, 1734; matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, March 19th, 1746, aged nineteen; B.A., 1749; M.A. (All Souls'), 1753; Vicar of St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, 1756-1791.

<sup>7</sup> *Jonathan Downes*. Placed in first school in 1741; graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, B.A. in 1753, M.A. in 1756; Platt fellow, 1755. Described in college register as "of America." His father had probably emigrated from Shropshire. Benefactor to school library in 1759. Described in library register as Rev. Mr. Downes, M.A., fellow of St. John's.

John's College, Cambridge; and the Rev. Edward Blakeway, M.A.,<sup>1</sup> fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

One other boy who was at school in Hotchkis's time may be mentioned, though he left a doubtful reputation behind him. This is Richard Parrott, the son of a Shrewsbury distiller, who was entered in the third school in 1738, and graduated at Queen's College, Cambridge, in 1743. He has been described as a swindler, a strolling player, and a profligate polygamist. But he managed to ingratiate himself with Edward Augustus, Duke of York, and by his influence was made a baronet on January 3rd, 1767, with patent of precedence dating from July 1st, 1716.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Edward Blakeway*, eldest son of Mr. Peter Blakeway, of Shrewsbury, surgeon, by Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, who was fourth master at Shrewsbury School, 1706-1713. Born February 5th, 1738, and educated at Shrewsbury and Magdalene College, Cambridge; B.A. (Wrangler) in 1756; M.A., 1759; curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1763-1794; Rector of Long Staunton, Cambridge, 1764-1779. In 1777 he was presented to the Rectory of Fitton, Gloucestershire, by his brother-in-law, Matthew Brickdale, Esq.; and in 1786 Lord Chancellor Thurlow gave him the Vicarage of Neen Savage, Salop. On September 3rd, 1764, he married Mary, daughter of John Brickdale, Esq., of Knowle, Somersetshire. Died February 17th, 1795. Benefactor to school library in 1760. (NICHOL'S *Literary Illustrations*; OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)

<sup>2</sup> See *Blakeway MSS.*







OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS, CIRCA 1805

FROM AN ENGRAVING BY T. SANDERS

## CHAPTER XII.

Charles Newling, M.A., Head Master, 1754-1770.

THE gentleman selected by St. John's College to succeed Leonard Hotchkis as Head Master was the Rev. Charles Newling, M.A., eldest son of the Rev. Adam Newling, M.A., Vicar of Preston Montford, and Rector of the two parishes of Shrawardine and Fitz. Charles Newling was born at Preston Montford in 1728, and was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1739, being placed in the second school. From Shrewsbury he went to St. John's, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1747 and M.A. in 1751. On March 16th, 1752, he was elected fellow of his college, and on July 6th, 1754, he was nominated to the head-mastership of Shrewsbury. The second master, Mr. Parry, had resigned about the same time as Hotchkis.<sup>1</sup>

Early in June, 1754, Hotchkis intimated to the Mayor<sup>2</sup> his intention of resigning, and the Mayor seems to have written to the master of St. John's at once on the subject. In the answer, which the master wrote on June 21st, 1754, he thanks the Mayor for his courtesy, and expresses a hope that he may see his way to promote the third master, the Rev. John Brooke, to the room about to be vacated.<sup>3</sup> The promotion was probably made before Hotchkis resigned on July 2nd, and on July 25th the college nominated the accidence master, the Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A., to the mastership of the third school.

<sup>1</sup> *Mr. Humphrey Parry* succeeded his father as Vicar of Guilsfield, Montgomeryshire.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Jones, Esq., was Mayor at the time.

<sup>3</sup> The letter written by the master and the college nomination of Mr. Newling are both among the town records.

Mr. Newling, though nominated in July, does not appear to have been able to take up his residence at Shrewsbury at once, for he was not formally admitted by the Mayor till October 3rd. One of his first acts as Head Master must have been to appoint, in conjunction with the Mayor, Mr. Samuel Johnson, who had previously had a private school of his own in the town, to be fourth master.

Blakeway says that Mr. Newling brought Shrewsbury School to "a high state of reputation," and that during his head-mastership he had as a rule "more than sixty boarders in his house, many of whom were (at the time Blakeway was writing) among the most respectable characters in the neighbourhood, and highly venerated their worthy preceptor." He also describes the Head Master as "a perfect gentleman in manner and very handsome in countenance."

Dr. Adams, the master of Pembroke College, Oxford, thought very highly of Mr. Newling, and before he was chosen by the college or Mr. Hotchkis resigned he had already expressed his conviction to Dr. John Taylor that he was "the likeliest, if not the only person, to retrieve the credit of the school."<sup>1</sup>

In 1764 Mr. Newling accepted the rectory of the second portion of Pontesbury, which he held *in commendam* for Mr. Edward Leighton till 1769. In August of the following year he was presented by Archbishop Cornwallis<sup>2</sup> to the Rectory of St. Philip's, Birmingham, with a prebendal stall at Lichfield and the treasurership of the Cathedral.

Soon after he had received this preferment Mr. Newling resigned the head-mastership of Shrewsbury.<sup>3</sup> In 1772 he

<sup>1</sup> The date of the letter from which these extracts are taken is June 19th, 1754. They do not occur among the transcripts from the *Blakeway MSS.* made by the author many years ago, and he is indebted for them to ADNITT and NAUNTON'S *History of Shrewsbury School*.

<sup>2</sup> The Hon. F. Cornwallis had been Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry before he became Primate in 1768, and had promised Mr. Thomas Townshend, afterwards Lord Sidney, to offer some preferment to Mr. Newling, who had acted as tutor to him and his brother Henry at Cambridge. No opportunity seems to have occurred till 1770, when the Rectory of St. Philip's fell vacant. Some arrangement seems to have been made between the Archbishop and his successor at Lichfield as to that living, which, properly speaking, was in the gift of the latter.

<sup>3</sup> The date of Mr. Newling's resignation was December 25th, 1770.

was made Rector of Westbury *in dextrâ parte*, and between Birmingham and Westbury he passed the remainder of his life. He died at Westbury on March 17th, 1787, in the sixtieth year of his age, and was buried at Shrawardine, where there is a monument to his memory.<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately there are but few boys educated at Shrewsbury in Newling's time whose names can now be traced.

Thomas Jones, fellow and tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge, Senior Wrangler in 1778, is the most distinguished among these. He was born at Berriew, in Montgomeryshire, on June 23rd, 1756, and was educated in schools at Berriew and Kerry till he was eleven years old, when he was removed to Shrewsbury. There he remained for seven years. On May 28th, 1774, he was admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge; but, after he had been two years at Cambridge, he migrated to Trinity on June 27th, 1776. During his undergraduate career he had acquired so great a reputation that no one ventured to contend with him for the Senior Wrangler's place. Herbert Marsh, afterwards Bishop of Peterborough, the second Wrangler of the same year, had practically been his pupil while both were still undergraduates. Marsh and Jones retained through life an intimate friendship. Jones was elected fellow of Trinity on October 1st, 1781, and appointed tutor in October, 1782. He died in London on July 18th, 1807, and was buried in Dulwich College. A tablet with bust was erected to his memory in the ante-chapel of Trinity College. Bishop Marsh wrote his *Memoirs*, which were published in 1808. Mr. Jones was held in high repute at Cambridge as a lecturer, and filled the office of moderator, 1786-87. He appears to have published nothing but a sermon on duelling, and an address to the Volunteers of Montgomeryshire.<sup>2</sup>

Another notable personage in the latter part of the eigh-

<sup>1</sup> See *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> See WILLIAMS'S *Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen* and the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*



teenth century, the Rev. Rowland Hill,<sup>1</sup> known as "The Preacher," was also at Shrewsbury in Newling's time, though he was removed to Eton College before entering at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1764. Rowland Hill graduated B.A. in 1769 and M.A. in 1772. While resident at Cambridge he was in the habit of visiting the sick and prisoners. He also took to street preaching, and was often interrupted and molested by mobs. After taking his degree Rowland Hill sought holy orders; but his reputation for irregular preaching created a prejudice against him, and it was not till after he had been rejected by six bishops that Dr. Wills, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, ordained him in 1777. A similar difficulty met him a year or two later when he was refused priest's orders by the Bishop of Carlisle at the instigation of the Archbishop of York. After this second repulse Rowland Hill became a nonconformist, and a chapel was built for him at Wootton, Gloucestershire, where he never failed to officiate sometime during the year for the rest of his life. Surrey Chapel, in London, which was built for him in 1783, became from that time the chief scene of his labours. He died on April 11th, 1833. A few of his sermons and hymns and a tract written by him on vaccination have been published.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Johnes, F.R.S., M.P., the translator of *Froissart*, was also a pupil of Newling's; but, like Rowland Hill, he removed to Eton before going to college. He was born at Ludlow in 1748, but belonged to an old Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire family. His father, Thomas Johnes, Esq., was seated at Llanvairclydogan, and was elected M.P. for Radnorshire in 1777. His mother, Elizabeth, was daughter of Richard Knight, Esq., of Croft Castle, Herefordshire. Thomas Johnes, the younger, became Lord Lieutenant of Cardiganshire, Colonel of the County Militia, and Auditor

<sup>1</sup> *Rowland Hill*, sixth son of Sir Rowland Hill, Bart., was born at Hawkestone Park, Salop, on August 23rd, 1744. He seems to have been from his boyhood much under the influence of his eldest brother, Richard, a somewhat prominent politician who represented Shropshire in the House of Commons, and who was a strenuous champion of George Whitfield and the Calvinistic Methodists.

<sup>2</sup> See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*

for life of the Land Revenue. He took much interest in agriculture, and was a great planter of trees on the mountains and waste lands of his estate of Hafod, in Cardiganshire. His library, which was of great value, especially after he had acquired by purchase the Pesaro collection, was destroyed by fire on March 13th, 1807. He died at Dawlish on April 23rd, 1816, aged sixty-seven, and was buried at Hafod in a church which he had built in 1803 from a design by Wyatt.<sup>1</sup>

Before Newling resigned on December 25th, 1770, two or three further changes had taken place in the staff of masters in addition to those already mentioned. On August 10th, 1755, Mr. Hatton, the third master, died. Some delay occurred before the master and seniors of St. John's College chose the Rev. James Atcherley, B.A., of Magdalene College, Cambridge, to succeed him. The date of Mr. Atcherley's nomination was November 3rd, and he was formally admitted to his mastership on November 25th. Sometime in 1758 Mr. Samuel Johnson, who had been accident master for four years, resigned, and was succeeded by his son, who was also named Samuel. Hotchkis says that the latter went out of his mind in May, 1768; but it is probable that his mental affection was not of long duration, as his name never disappears from the school accounts, and he was admitted to the third-mastership on April 8th, 1771. From the year 1768-69 he is described in the school account-book as a clergyman. He appears to have graduated B.A. at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1771, and to have taken his M.A. degree in 1774. It is not easy to see how he managed to reside at Cambridge for the requisite terms. He may possibly have done so before taking his father's place as accident master, leaving his B.A. degree till 1771, when

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Johnes, jun.*, was M.P. for Cardigan Borough in 1774, for Radnorshire from 1780 to 1790, and for Cardiganshire from 1796 to 1812. He is described in the Parliamentary Lists as of Stannage, in Radnorshire, and of Croft Castle, in Herefordshire. He was twice married; first to Maria Burgh, of Monmouthshire, and second to his cousin Jane, daughter of John Johnes, Esq., of Dolaucothy. His only daughter died in his lifetime unmarried. (See WILLIAMS'S *Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen* and the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

he was obliged to take it in order to make himself eligible for nomination by the college as third master. But this nomination was not made till after Mr. Newling's resignation. On November 29th, 1763, the Rev. John Brooke, M.A., who had been second master for nine years, and at work in the school for twenty-three, died. The vacancy thus caused was filled by the promotion of Mr. Atcherley, and on December 8th the college nominated the Rev. Thomas Humphreys, B.A., one of its own graduates, as third master.

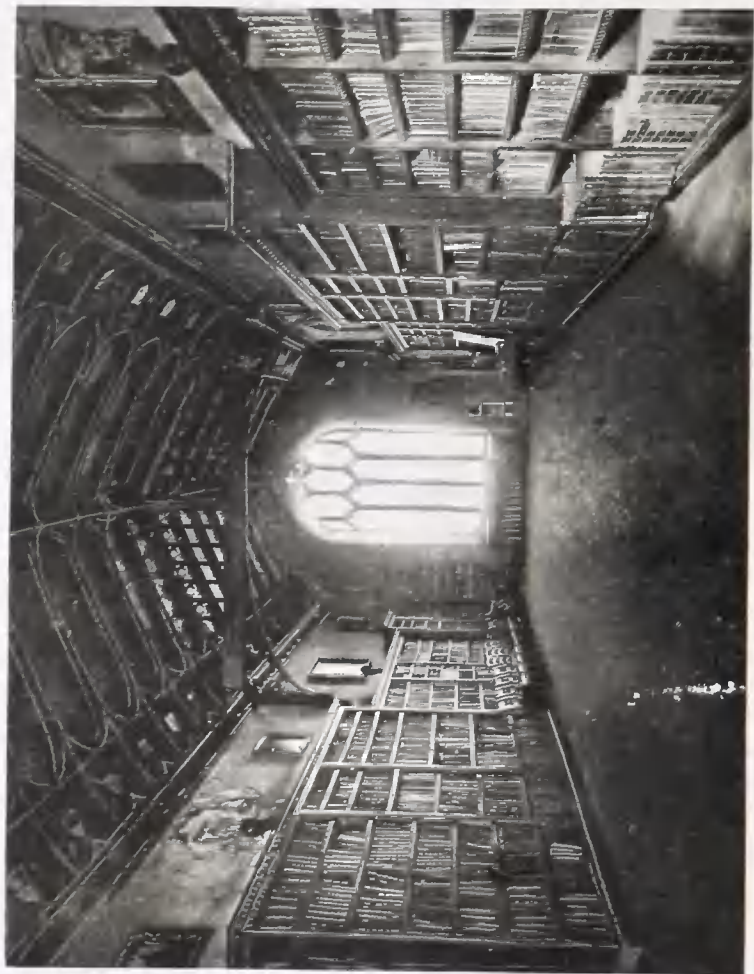
Shortly before Mr. Newling's resignation Dr. John Taylor, the great Greek scholar, had died.<sup>1</sup> He left his large and valuable library to Shrewsbury School, with the exception of his manuscripts and such of his printed books as contained his marginal annotations, which he reserved for his friend, Dr. Askew. This noble gift, added to the accumulations of 170 years, partly obtained by purchase, but chiefly by the benefactions of former scholars and other friends of the school, made the school library practically what it was in 1819 when Dr. Samuel Parr, in speaking of it, said that with the exception of Eton College library he had seen in no public school its equal.<sup>2</sup> And before we enter on the twenty-eight years of Mr. Atcherley's head-mastership, during which Shrewsbury School sank into a condition of almost hopeless decay, book-lovers may be glad to have a short account of some of the many valuable and interesting treasures which are still preserved in Shrewsbury School library, and which are receiving, it is pleasant to add, at the present time, much care and attention from the Governing Body.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Taylor died on April 4th, 1766.

<sup>2</sup> See NICHOLS'S *Memoir of Dr. Taylor and Dr. Long*, with their music speeches at Cambridge in 1714 and 1730. A copy of the book, which was published in 1819, was presented to the school library on January 7th, 1820, by Mr. J. Nichols, with an inscription recording his respect for the memory of Dr. Taylor and his veneration for the literary talents of Dr. Samuel Parr and Dr. Samuel Butler.







LIBRARY IN THE OLD SCHOOL

## CHAPTER XIII.

### The School Library.

**D**IRECTIONS were given in Ashton's school ordinances that after sufficient lodgings had been provided for the schoolmasters a library and gallery should be built and "furnished with all manner of books, mappes, spheres, instruments of astronomye and all other things apperteyninge to learninge." As early as September 4th, 1587, we find the Bailiffs asking permission from the master and seniors of St. John's College to take money from the school-chest for this purpose; but, though permission was immediately given, these buildings do not seem to have been taken in hand till the year 1594-95,<sup>1</sup> and they certainly were not completed before the latter part of 1596.<sup>2</sup> No mention is made of the library being put to any use before 1612. On June 24th of that year the Bailiffs informed the college that all the buildings to be erected before the country school-house was taken in hand were finished, and asked permission to expend £100 in furnishing the library with books. We read also in the school register that on October 1st, 1612, the Bailiffs and schoolmasters had wine and cakes in the library. The college authorities appear to have objected to money being spent upon books unless the Bailiffs would be explicit as to their intention of founding exhibitions at St. John's for Shrewsbury scholars, and it was not till May, 1616, that they gave their consent to the proposed expenditure.<sup>3</sup> The

<sup>1</sup> See school account-book.

<sup>2</sup> The cost of the building is given in the account-book in Meighen's handwriting, and it appears from his note that the library was finished by the end of 1596.

<sup>3</sup> See school account-book.

selection of the books was entrusted to Meighen, and it is recorded in the school accounts that he expended in this way during the year 1616-17 the sum of £79 16s. 3½*d.* But by this time many books and other presents had already been given for the furnishing of the library by old Shrewsbury boys and other friends of the school, and the names of the donors are faithfully recorded in the register of benefactors to the school library, which was commenced by Meighen and continued by subsequent masters.<sup>1</sup> The first of these gifts, of which any mention is made, was "Mullinax his terrestriall globe in a frame with a standing base covered with greenish buckrome." The globe was presented in 1596 by the Rev. Thomas Laughton, B.D., curate of St. Mary's Church and Public Preacher in the town of Shrewsbury. At the present time the library contains nearly 6000 volumes, and among them are to be found many rare books which are for the most part in their original bindings, and, but for the effects of time, in much the same condition as when given to the school. The manuscript volumes are forty-three in number, theological treatises and portions of the vulgate forming a considerable portion of their contents. To the historian of Shrewsbury School the two volumes<sup>2</sup> containing the names of scholars admitted from 1562 to 1635 and from 1636 to 1663, which have happily been preserved, are naturally of primary importance.

Many interesting details again of Shrewsbury school life are to be found in a folio volume of 460 closely written pages, commonly known as the *Taylor MS.* This manuscript contains a chronicle of events in England and elsewhere between 1372 and 1603, and was evidently written by someone residing either in Shrewsbury or in the immediate neighbourhood who was thoroughly conversant with local

<sup>1</sup> Three catalogues or registers of these gifts are preserved in the library. There is also a list of the names of benefactors from 1596 to 1654, with the titles of the books given by them and an alphabetical index of the donors' names, among the town records.

<sup>2</sup> The first of these two volumes, containing the admissions from 1562 to 1635, has been published by Dr. Calvert under the title *Shrewsbury School Regestum Scholarium.*

matters. It is stated in Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury* that this chronicle was given to Dr. John Taylor by Richard Lyster, Esq., M.P., of Rowton Castle, Shropshire, who was commonly known in the county as "Senator Lyster," and it has been consequently surmised that its compilation was the work of some member or members of the Lyster family. Internal evidence shows that in 1580 the author had got no further with his chronicle than the year 1464,<sup>1</sup> and that it took him two years more to carry it on up to 1546.<sup>2</sup> But, after July 7th, 1584,<sup>3</sup> the events recorded were evidently written down year by year. The first edition of Holinshed's *Chronicle* was published in 1577, and it is easy for anyone who will take the trouble to make the necessary comparison to see that the compiler of the *Taylor MS.* was

<sup>1</sup> Under the year 1464 we read in the *Taylor MS.*, "This yere was a lycens grauntyd for serte<sup>o</sup> cotsall sheepe to passe into Spayne that it is well knowe<sup>o</sup> in these days to say 1580."

<sup>2</sup> Under the year 1546 we find :—

"In this yere one forley potmacker for the mynt in the toure of London fell a sleepe uppon a wensday and slept xiiii dayes and xiiii nyghtes togeather and never awackyd nor could not be awackyd w<sup>th</sup> pynching, cramping, or other meanes vntyll the full xiiii dayes & nyghtes were expyryd and when he awackyd he had thought he had sleapte but one nyght and hys body was in no other temper then yf he had slept no more . . . . w<sup>he</sup> p<sup>te</sup>ie ys yeat lyvinge to thys presennt yere 1582."—*Taylor MS.*

<sup>3</sup> The events recorded in the chronicle up to July 7th, 1584, are comprised in the first 152 folios, and references to each of them are given in a table of contents at the beginning of the volume. But references to all events subsequently recorded are written in different ink, and are for the most part squeezed in with difficulty. It is evident that the compiler, having completed his work down to July, 1584, made a table of contents up to that date. From 1584 to 1603 the chronicle has all the authority due to a contemporary writer, recording the events narrated at the time they happened, and entering references to these events in the blank spaces of his old table of contents in the best way he could. After 1580 passages are continually occurring which point clearly to a contemporary writer.

*Under the year 1581* we find mention of an arrangement made in Shrewsbury for morning service in the churches of St. Chad, St. Julian, and St. Mary, at the hours of 8 a.m., 9 a.m., and 10 a.m., respectively, which the writer describes as "a good and godly beginning the Lord be praynsyd for it."

*Under 1585* we read : "This yere the Earle of Oxford wennt ou<sup>o</sup> to fflanders w<sup>th</sup> a goodly company and by the way lost most p<sup>rt</sup> of his tresure and hath valiantly made a vowe that he will neu<sup>o</sup> com hom agayne before he have his purpose, god be hys force and forman, and sennd hym good success Amen." Similar examples might be multiplied indefinitely.



mainly indebted to Holinshed for the contents of his chronicle down to the year 1577, the events recorded by both chroniclers being for the most part arranged in the same order and expressed in the same words. For local history from 1584 to 1603 the *Taylor MS.* is of course a contemporary authority of much importance.

Two manuscript volumes of the school accounts, the first relating to the years from 1578 to 1663 and the second to those from 1664 to 1797, have been, since 1890, placed in the school library, and throw much light on the history of the school, especially in connection with the repeated efforts made by the Corporation of Shrewsbury to obtain complete control over the school finances, as well as the right of appointing the schoolmasters and other officials.<sup>1</sup>

Two other manuscripts of great interest to local antiquarians are the *Herald's Visitation of Shropshire in 1623* and a book commonly known as *The Arms of the Bailiffs*. On the right-hand pages of the latter are the illuminated coats of arms of the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury from 1372 to 1638 and of the Mayors from 1638 to 1724-5, and on the left we find many brief notes, sometimes relating to historical events, but more frequently to local matters.

This book was presented to the library in 1668 by Mr. Joseph Baynes, of Shrewsbury, who tells us in the introduction that the work was commenced by his father-in-law, Mr. Robert Owen, who was "authorized by the Court Marshall of England, a Deputy Herald for Salop and several other adjacent counties."

Robert Owen was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1571, and it is improbable that he began his book long before the end of the sixteenth century. Most likely he is responsible for the notes up to 1632, the year of his death, and Joseph Baynes for those between 1632 and 1668. Towards the close of the eighteenth century various books disappeared from the school library and others received material damage.

<sup>1</sup> From the earlier of these two volumes Dr. Calvert has made copious extracts, which it is to be hoped will be printed at some future time in the *Shropshire Archaeological Transactions*.

It was about this time doubtless that some dozen or more of the illuminated coats of arms were torn out of Robert Owen's book.

Among the theological manuscripts is a collection of Latin anthems set to music which ends with three scenes, in English, of a lost mystery, perhaps one of the Beverley plays. This fragment, which has been printed in the *Academy* and in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society*, is thought by Professor Skeat to be the oldest manuscript example of an English mystery.

Another volume contains the fifth and sixth parts of *The Pricke of Conscience*,<sup>1</sup> bound up with some manuscript sermons, a curious Latin-English version of the Apostles' Creed in rhyme, and a long bidding prayer, which, from the mention in it of St. Chad and St. Mary of Coventry, would seem to have been in use in the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. The Apostles' Creed and the Bidding Prayer have been printed by Dr. Calvert in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society*. The volume itself seems to have belonged to a parish priest who was still living in 1484.

Another manuscript, which finds a most appropriate home in a school library, is a very ancient transcript on vellum of the earliest known Latin-English Dictionary, which is entitled *Medulla Grammatices*, and is attributed to Geoffrey the Grammarian, friar-preacher of Lynn.

The *Ortus Vocabulorum*, the first Latin-English Dictionary printed in England, was based upon this treatise. Of the rare edition printed by Pynson in 1509 the school possesses a copy.

Among the rare books in the library the following are the most noteworthy :—

*Gower's Confessio Amantis*. Caxton. 1483. An extremely fine copy.

*The Opus Grammaticum of Sulpitius*. Wynkyn de Worde. 1504.  
A unique example.

<sup>1</sup> *The Pricke of Conscience* was a poem written by Richard Rolle, the Hermit of Hampole, who was born at Thornton, in Yorkshire, in 1290, and died in 1349. It was printed by Dr. R. Morris in 1863. The subjects of the two parts given in the *Shrewsbury MS.* are "Doomsday" and "The Pains of Hell."

*Virgil. Mentelin.* Strasburg. 1469.<sup>1</sup>

*Collection of Works on Grammar.* Stanbridge and Whitinton.  
Wynkyn de Worde, 1519-1521.

*Æmilius Probus.* (Cornelius Nepos.) N. Jenson. Venice. 1471.

*Jacobus Magnus. Sophologium Sapientiæ.* Paris. 1472.

*Johannes Salesberiensis. De Nugis Curialium et Vestigiis Philosophorum.* Brussels. 1480. (Printed by the Brothers of the Common Life.)

*Nuremberg Chronicle.* 1493.

*Perottus. Regulæ Grammaticales.* Louvain. 1486. (A very rare grammar, with examples in English, evidently printed for the use of English students in the University of Louvain.)

*Palsgrave. Lesclarcissement de la langue Francoyse.* Pynson and Haukyns. 1530.

*Tindale. New Testament.* Antwerp. 1534.

*The Primer of Edward VI.* 1547.<sup>2</sup>

The library also possesses copies of the first edition of many English books of note, such as Spenser's *Faery Queene*, Coryat's *Crudities*, Bacon's *Novum Organum*, Hooker's *Ecclesiastical Polity*, Drayton's *Polyolbion*, the works of Ben Jonson (first folio edition), Beaumont and Fletcher's plays (first complete edition), and Newton's *Principia*.

As is frequently the case in old libraries, many volumes have been found to contain fragments of early books used as flyleaves or as padding for the bindings. A vellum leaf of a manuscript copy of the *Confessio Amantis*, dated 1390; leaves of Caxton's *Game and Play of the Chess*, and of Rastell's *Pastyme of People*, 1529;<sup>3</sup> two copies of a broadside proclamation of Henry VIII., and a broadside ballad about the burning of Robert Barnes in 1540,<sup>4</sup> both the latter being previously

<sup>1</sup> The *Editio princeps* was printed by Sweynheim and Pannartz at Rome in the same year, 1469.

<sup>2</sup> A Martin Marprelate tract in the library is interesting on account of its rarity, as well as of the probability that John Penry himself was educated at Shrewsbury School. The tract in question was written by one Greenwood on a Cambridge man named Some, who had written against Penry.

<sup>3</sup> Only one perfect copy of Rastell's book is known.

<sup>4</sup> John Redman, who was the printer of this ballad, is only known to have put his name to one, or, at the most, to two books. For its identification, as well as for the discovery of *The Mentelin Virgil*, the school is indebted to Mr. E. Gordon Duff, M.A., of the Spencer-Rylands Library, Manchester. The ballad is printed in *Notes and Queries* for October 10th, 1896.



unknown, have been discovered at Shrewsbury employed in one or other of these ways.

Special interest attaches to various books in the school library in consequence of manuscript notes or additions which have been made by their former owners. A copy of *Hephæstion* is annotated (according to Dr. Butler) by Isaac Casaubon, and there is an edition of Juvenal containing Scarron's autograph. *Ciceronis Epistolæ ad Familiares* (Lyons, 1511) is notable as having been in the possession of Thomas Baker, the historian of St. John's College, and William Cole, the antiquarian, before it came into the hands of "Demosthenes Taylor."

A book entitled *An Answer to a late book written against the learned and reverend Doctor Bentley*, relating to some manuscript notes on Callimachus (London, 1699),<sup>1</sup> preserves the handwriting of four great scholars, Dr. John Taylor, Dr. Samuel Butler, Dr. Martin Routh, and Dr. Samuel Parr. Then there is a fine copy of the grammatical writings of Theodore of Gaza, Apollonius and Herodianus, printed by Aldus in 1495, which appears to have an autograph presentation by Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of London.<sup>2</sup> On eighteen blank pages at the end of this book Mr. Leonard Hotchkis, Head Master of Shrewsbury from 1735 to 1754, has written various notes on Greek grammar.

Shrewsbury volunteers may take some interest again in a manuscript note in Sir Clement Edmonds's *Observations upon Cæsar's Commentaries*, which gives the words of command in pike and musketry drill in use in the seventeenth century.<sup>3</sup>

The library is rich in fine specimens of early bindings. One good example is the collection of grammatical treatises printed by Stanbridge and Whitinton, which is bound in stamped calf, executed at Cambridge. The binding is the work of Garret Godfrey, who is said by Roger Ascham to

<sup>1</sup> The author of these notes seems to have been Solomon Whateley, M.A., of Magdalen College, Oxford.

<sup>2</sup> The inscription at the beginning of the book is "Cuthbertus Londinensis Episcopus studiosis dono dedit."

<sup>3</sup> *Sir Clement Edmonds* was a Shrewsbury boy and a benefactor to the school library; but the book referred to was not included in his gift.



have known Erasmus. A still better example is of Italian workmanship. It is an Aristophanes, and bears the device of a charioteer with the motto ὄρθως καὶ μὴ λοξίως. The binding was executed for Demetrio Canevari (physician to Pope Urban VII.), the great Italian book collector of the sixteenth century. The rich ornamentation of the medallions in gold, silver, and colour is still in good preservation. Other books bear the arms of Queen Elizabeth, Louis XIV., Lomenie de Brienne, De Thou, L'Abbé Bouhier, and other notable personages.

From the time of Dr. Taylor's great gift down to 1882 the library of Shrewsbury School met with but few benefactors. The only considerable bequest during this interval was that made by Sir Andrew Vincent Corbet, who died in 1855. Much was done by Dr. Samuel Butler during his headmastership to remedy the mischief caused by the want of care shown for the library in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and to make its treasures more serviceable to scholars. Among other things he made a sort of catalogue of its contents in an interleaved copy of the Bodleian Catalogue of 1738, in three volumes, by underlining the names of the books to be found at Shrewsbury, adding the press marks at the sides, and giving on the blank pages the names of books in the school library which the Bodleian did not at that time possess.

Dr. Butler's great edition of *Æschylus*, his interleaved New Testament, filled with manuscript notes, and several other books once belonging to him, were presented to the school in 1897 by the executors of the late Archdeacon T. B. Lloyd, his grandson. The interleaved and annotated copy of Stanley's *Æschylus*, sent by Dr. Butler for the use of the printers at the time his own edition was going to press, has also been given to the library by the daughters of the late Rev. Thomas Butler.

At the present time the school library is divided between two rooms in the new school building. One room contains all the books which were removed to Kingsland from the old school. The other room is confined to modern books, for

the purchase of which several grants of money have been made by the Governing Body. Many volumes have also been presented by old Salopians and other friends of the school, and considerable progress has been made towards the formation of a good reference library for the use of masters and upper boys. In this room is also preserved an interesting relic of one of the most distinguished scholars and greatest Head Masters Shrewsbury has known. It bears the following inscription :—

Dr. Kennedy's Writing Table

From 1836 to 1889.

Presented to Shrewsbury School

by

M. G. K. and J. E. K.

Besides the rare bindings mentioned, the library also contains specimens of the English binders, Gerard Wausfost (*cir.* 1500), Nicholas Speryng (d. 1545-46), and John Reynes (1527-44 *cir.*).

## CHAPTER XIV.

James Atcherley, M.A., Head Master, 1771-1798—Act of Parliament in 1798—Resignation of Masters—Appointment of new Head Master.

WHEN Mr. Newling resigned in 1771 his place was filled by the promotion of the Rev. James Atcherley, M.A., the second master. The Rev. Thomas Humphries, M.A., was promoted to the charge of the second school, and the accident master, Mr. Samuel Johnson, was nominated by the college to the third-mastership. The new accident master was Mr. John Rowland,<sup>1</sup> son of the Rev. John Rowland, of Llanduvi Brefi, in Cardiganshire. He was born about 1745, and probably received his school education at Shrewsbury. On April 8th, 1767, he matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, at the age of twenty-two; but he seems subsequently to have migrated to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1771 and M.A. in 1785. Mr. Atcherley<sup>2</sup> graduated B.A. at Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1753, but did not take his M.A. degree until he had to qualify himself for the second-mastership in 1763. Of the twenty-eight years during which he was Head Master of Shrewsbury there is but little to say. One change only took place among his colleagues. Mr. Humphries, the second master, died on October 22nd, 1783, his place being filled by the promotion of Mr. Samuel Johnson, and the Rev. James Matthewes, B.A., of Magdalene College, Cambridge, was appointed third master by the

<sup>1</sup> *Mr. Rowland* was in holy orders when he resigned his mastership in 1798. He subsequently became Rector of Llangetho, Cardiganshire, and minister of Clive, Shropshire. He died in 1816.

<sup>2</sup> *Mr. Atcherley*, after his resignation, became Rector of Lydbury North, Shropshire, and died at Bridgnorth, March 3rd, 1804. (*Gent. Mag.*, 1804.)



OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS, EAST VIEW, CIRCA 1845





master and seniors of St. John's College on November 7th, 1783. A somewhat amusing incident is recorded in connection with this appointment.

It appears that Mr. Atcherley had informed the master of St. John's College that the appointment of Mr. Matthews would be acceptable to the Mayor and Corporation as well as to himself. The instrument of appointment, having been duly signed and sealed, was sent by the master to Mr. Matthews, together with the certificate for the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, so that he, having obtained the written approval of the Bishop, might present both documents to the Mayor at the same time. But the Mayor, Mr. John Oliver, attorney-at-law, who had not long been in office, on hearing that Mr. Matthews had received his appointment, took it into his head that his dignity had been outraged by the master in failing to inform him of the choice made by the college, and called a meeting of the Corporation to consider the matter. The meeting was held at the Guildhall on November 18th, 1783, and the Town Clerk was instructed to signify to the master and fellows of St. John's College that they had been wanting in proper respect to the Mayor in neglecting to communicate to him the result of their election. The college answer explains the matter to the Mayor, who had not understood that the instrument of appointment was the formal and usual means employed by the college authorities to inform him of their choice. But the master and fellows were perhaps unnecessarily severe in expressing their surprise at *the ignorance* on which the censure of the Corporation was founded, and *the insolence* of the manner in which it was conveyed.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Atcherley is said to have been a man of good natural abilities. He published in 1773 a pamphlet, called "A Drapier's Address to the People of England," advocating the principles of Free Trade, of which the editor of Bishop Samuel Butler's *Life and Letters* speaks favourably.<sup>2</sup> But report says that he was somewhat in-

<sup>1</sup> The correspondence has been recently printed in *Shrewsbury Notes and Queries*, and is given in the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. i. p. 21. In future references to this book it will be described as *Butler's Life and Letters*.

temperate in his habits, and his successor declared in the early days of his head-mastership that *discipline* had been unknown at Shrewsbury School for twenty years.<sup>1</sup> The traditional story that the favourite amusement of Mr. Atcherley and one of his colleagues was to practise kicking at a flitch of bacon hung in the kitchen for the purpose, in order to see who could kick the highest,<sup>2</sup> seems quite consistent with the absence on their part of any proper notions of discipline. Blakeway tells us that about 1784 a son of Mr. Newling, the late Head Master, who was then at Cambridge, was told that the upper boys were allowed the free run of the school library, and were thus enabled not only to tear out the fly-leaves of books to make use of for their exercises, but to pilfer other things that they found there.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Atcherley is also said to have been in the habit of making boys presents of the library books. The room itself appears to have been used by Mr. Atcherley's servants for dressing the boys' hair.

Of this fact Dr. Butler and Dr. Parr found convincing evidence when searching the library for an edition of *Hephæstion*, in which Mr. Leonard Hotchkis had made marginal notes. The book itself had to be thoroughly cleaned and fumigated with sulphur before Dr. Butler was able to send it to Mr. Gaisford, who had asked for its loan.<sup>4</sup> Doubtless it was in Mr. Atcherley's time that Owen's *Arms of the Bailiffs* and other books were mutilated and some valuable books were lost.<sup>5</sup> The most serious of all such

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 20.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 21.

<sup>3</sup> *Blakeway MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> See Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,583. Dr. Butler describes to Mr. Gaisford the condition in which he found the book, but does not wish the fact to be mentioned, not only on account of the loathsomeness of the story, but for the credit's sake of his predecessor. Dr. Parr told the story to his friend, Mr. J. Nichols. (See *Memoir of Dr. John Taylor*, by J. NICHOLS.)

<sup>5</sup> One of the notes in OWEN'S *Arms of the Bailiffs*, containing a eulogy of Mr. John Meighen, was copied by Blakeway in full. But several words of this note, together with the coat of arms on the other side of the page, have long ago disappeared. As Mr. Blakeway did not reside in Shrewsbury till he was ordained, in 1793, it seems almost certain that the book in question was mutilated during the last three or four years of Mr. Atcherley's head-mastership.

losses that Shrewsbury School has suffered is undoubtedly due to Mr. Atcherley's neglect or carelessness. It is on record that in Mr. Newling's time there was a large folio volume containing the admissions to the school made by himself and his predecessors from 1664, and that, on his resignation, he handed it over to Mr. Atcherley. But this invaluable manuscript was missing in Mr. Blakeway's days, and no traces of it have since been found.<sup>1</sup> Dr. Parr describes Mr. Atcherley as vulgar and ignorant, but the Doctor was not altogether a trustworthy authority, and the Head Master's careless treatment of the valuable school library would naturally prejudice a book-lover like Parr against him.<sup>2</sup> One little picture of boy life at Shrewsbury School in Atcherley's time has been recently discovered, though, unfortunately, it was painted in the Christmas holidays, and not at a time when the regular school work was going on. Incidentally we learn from it that Irish boys had begun to come to Shrewsbury in the eighteenth century, and that they did not as a rule go home when the school broke up at Christmas. One of these Irish boys, who boarded with Mr. Johnson, the second master, and had spent his Christmas at Shrewsbury, wrote to his mother, on December 27th, 1787, giving her an account of some recent incidents of his holidays. He had dined on Christmas Day with his aunt, who appears to have resided in the town, and on another day had watched the company going into the Assembly Rooms at the Lion Hotel for a grand ball, given by Mr. Pulteney,<sup>3</sup> who then resided at the Castle, in honour of his daughter's coming of age. The previous week had been "the Hunt Week," and the boys had got leave from Mrs. Johnson to go down town to see the guests assemble at the Lion for "the Hunt Ball." But the writer of the letter seems to have gone "out of bounds" without permission in order to see Miss Pulteney in her birthday

<sup>1</sup> *Blakeway MSS.* Mr. Newling's son was Blakeway's informant.

<sup>2</sup> See NICHOLS's *Memoir of Dr. John Taylor*.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Pulteney was M.P. for Shrewsbury from 1774 to 1805. He died June 5th, 1805.



ball dress. One day, not long before the letter was written, the boys had all been sitting over the fire in their hall when Mrs. Johnson brought in two Irish gentlemen who had come to ask after some boys named Bourne. It turned out that the Bournes had gone on a visit into Denbighshire. But one of the gentlemen asked whether there were any other Irish boys there. One can fancy the unanimous shout in reply, "We are all Irish." Then Mrs. Johnson went over their names, and it soon transpired that one of the gentlemen knew the writer's father, who was a beneficed clergyman in Ireland.<sup>1</sup>

Of the Shropshire boys whom we know to have been at school when Atcherley was Head Master several left Shrewsbury after two or three years' stay for other schools. Edward Bather,<sup>2</sup> afterwards Archdeacon of Salop in Lichfield, went to Rugby, and Richard Scott, B.D.,<sup>3</sup> Vicar of Conover and Chaplain-in-Ordinary to the Prince of Wales, to Harrow, after being for some little time at Shrewsbury School. The Rev. J. B. Blakeway, M.A.,<sup>4</sup> curate and official

<sup>1</sup> The letter was first printed in the *Salopian*, and appeared subsequently in *Shropshire Notes and Queries* for May 22nd, 1896.

<sup>2</sup> *Edward Bather* was the son of the Rev. John Bather, of Shrewsbury. He matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, on June 15th, 1798, aged eighteen, and graduated B.A. in 1803 and M.A. in 1808. Vicar of Meole Brace, 1804-1847; Archdeacon of Salop and Prebendary of Lichfield. Married Mary, elder daughter of Dr. Samuel Butler. Died October 3rd, 1847. Author of *Sermons on the Old Testament* and other theological books. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Richard Scott*, son of the Rev. George Scott, of Brentford, Middlesex. Matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, December 17th, 1799, aged nineteen; B.A. in 1803; M.A. in 1806; B.D. in 1825; Vicar of Conover, 1807; Chaplain-in-Ordinary to the Prince of Wales, 1808. Died October 6th, 1848. (FOSTER'S *Alumni Oxonienses*.)

<sup>4</sup> *J. B. Blakeway* was the eldest son of Joshua Blakeway, Esq., of Shrewsbury, and Elizabeth, sister of Matthew Brickdale, Esq., M.P. for Bristol 1780-1784. He was born June 24th, 1765, and entered Shrewsbury School in 1772; removed to Westminster, 1775; matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1782; B.A., 1786; M.A., 1795; admitted Student of Lincoln's Inn, 1786; called to the Bar, 1789; ordained by Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 1793; succeeded his uncle, the Rev. Edward Blakeway, as curate and official of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, and Rector of Neen Savage, Shropshire, in 1795; Rector of Felton, Somerset, the same year. Married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Wilkies, Esq., merchant, of Amsterdam, in 1797. Rector of Kinlet, Salop, in 1800. Resigned Felton and Kinlet in 1816, and thenceforth lived at the Council House, Shrewsbury. A good Latin, Greek, French, and Italian scholar, and studied Hebrew

of St. Mary's from 1795 to 1826, the well-known Shropshire antiquarian, left Shrewsbury for Westminster when he was little more than ten years old.<sup>1</sup> It is only fair to Mr. Atcherley to mention that one of his pupils, at any rate, felt some gratitude for what he had learned at Shrewsbury when under his care. This was the Rev. Joseph Thomas,<sup>2</sup> who, when presenting to the school library the works of his father-in-law, John Parkhurst, M.A., left it on record that his gift was made "in testimony of respect and gratitude" for the education which he had received under "the worthy and Reverend James Atcherley, Head Master." Of one fact there is unhappily no doubt at all, and that is, that in the closing years of the eighteenth century Shrewsbury School had fallen as low as it possibly could, both in numbers and in reputation. In a letter written by Dr. James, late Head Master of Rugby, to Mr. Samuel Butler, on January 23rd, 1797, the state of things at Shrewsbury is described as deplorable. Dr. James, who had been recently staying in Shropshire, declared that the Head Master of Shrewsbury School did "absolutely nothing," and that there were only three or four boys left in the school.<sup>3</sup> By this time many people of influence, both in Shrewsbury and the neighbourhood, had become convinced that unless sweeping measures were adopted there would be little hope of prosperity ever returning to Shrewsbury School. Dr. James had heard

in advanced life. (NICHOLS's *Literary Illustrations*, vol. v.) Joint author with Archdeacon Owen of the *History of Shrewsbury*. His valuable MSS. on Shropshire genealogy and history and his collections for a history of the school are preserved in the Bodleian Library. Died March 10th, 1826.

<sup>1</sup> Two other pupils of Atcherley are worthy of mention, the Rev. William Gorsuch Rowland, M.A., of Christ Church, Oxford, curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1828-1851, Prebendary of Lichfield, 1814-1851; School Bailiff, 1805-1839, who has left a lasting memorial of his taste and munificence in the old stained glass with which he beautified St. Mary's Church; and his brother, Daniel Rowland, Esq., of Saxonbury Lodge, Sussex, barrister-at-law, an antiquary of some repute, who edited and continued BLAKEWAY's *Sheriffs of Shropshire*. The father of these boys was the Rev. John Rowland, M.A., Rector of Llangeitho, Cardiganshire, and fourth master of Shrewsbury School from 1771 to 1798.

<sup>2</sup> *Joseph Thomas* graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, B.A. in 1789 and M.A. in 1792.

<sup>3</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 20.

while he was in Shropshire that it was in contemplation not only to pension off all the existing masters, but also to get an Act of Parliament passed placing the school under the management of a new Governing Body. Many months were unavoidably occupied in negotiations between the Bishop of the Diocese, the master and fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, the Corporation of Shrewsbury, and various gentlemen in the neighbourhood, who were specially interested in the welfare of the school, before an agreement was arrived at as to the details of the proposed Act, and it did not finally become law till 1798. By this Act of Parliament the ordinances by which the school had been governed since 1577 were revoked, with the exception of those under which the school exhibitions at St. John's College had been founded and maintained.

The most important changes effected by the Act were as follows :—

1st. Provision was made for the appointment of a new Governing Body to take the place of the Mayor and Head Master as school trustees, and its first members were named in the Act.<sup>1</sup>

2nd. The restrictions placed on the free choice of the Head Master and the second master by St. John's College, by the preferential claims given to burgesses, etc., were removed, and the power of veto "for due cause," originally resting with the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, was transferred from the Mayor of Shrewsbury to the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.

3rd. The right of gratuitous education was given to the legitimate sons of burgesses.

4th. The right of presenting to the school livings was transferred from the Mayor and Head Master to the Mayor and Corporation. But there were many other changes besides these.

<sup>1</sup> The Mayor of Shrewsbury; Sir Charles Oakley, Bart.; the Rev. Joseph Plymley, Archdeacon of Salop; Henry Bevan, Esq.; Edward Burton, Esq.; William Cludde, Esq.; Thomas Eyton, Esq.; Joseph Loxdale, Esq.; the Rev. Hugh Owen; Thomas Pemberton, Esq.; the Rev. John Rocke; the Rev. Thomas Stedman; the Rev. Richard Wilding.



Although the preferential claims to livings and exhibitions which were given to the sons of burgesses, etc., by the old ordinances were retained by the Act of 1798, a new condition was imposed that candidates must have been at Shrewsbury School for two years at least before going to college. Power was also given to the Corporation to give an absolute preference, if they should think fit, over all other candidates for school livings, to any head or second master who should have resigned his office. It was, moreover, expressly ordained that candidates for exhibitions must be duly qualified in respect of learning, good manners, and behaviour. The selection of all masters except the second was for the future to be left to the Head Master. Power was given to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry to dismiss the head or second master for immorality, incapacity, neglect of duty, or other reasonable cause, on the written complaint of the majority of the Governors. Any of the assistant masters might be dismissed by the Head Master on similar grounds. It was expressly provided that the head and second masters should be members of the Church of England, and that the Head Master should fill the office of catechist and reader. This latter proviso made it for the first time practically obligatory on the electors to choose a clergyman in holy orders as Head Master. The Governors were empowered to make bye-laws for the general government of the school, so long as they did not affect its character as a "Free Grammar School," and they were also directed to apply surplus revenues to the foundation of new exhibitions at Oxford or Cambridge. But after founding one such exhibition they were to be at liberty, if they should think fit, to increase the stipends of the ministers of any of the four school livings of St. Mary's in Shrewsbury, Chirbury, Astley, or Clive.

Absolute control over the ways and methods of teaching in the school was assigned to the Head Master. The exhibitions already founded at St. John's College, Cambridge, were to be retained, and might be increased in value if the Governors should think fit.

The first act of the new Governing Body was to pension



the existing masters,<sup>1</sup> and on June 30th, 1798, Mr. Atcherley, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Matthewes formally resigned their offices. The accident master, Mr. Rowland, remained at his post for two months longer, in order, probably, that the younger sons of Shrewsbury residents might not be left wholly without instruction. In the meantime the master and fellows of St. John's College had made their selection of head and second masters. The gentleman chosen for the head-mastership was Mr. Samuel Butler, B.A.,<sup>2</sup> who, after great promise shown at Rugby School as a boy, and a career of splendid success as an undergraduate at Cambridge, had been elected in the previous year a Platt fellow of St. John's. His classical distinctions at the university had been almost unprecedented. Three times he had carried off the Browne medal—twice for a Latin ode and once for a Greek ode; in 1793 he was elected Craven scholar, beating such rivals as Keate, afterwards Head Master of Eton; Bethell, the future Bishop of Bangor; and Samuel Taylor Coleridge; and in 1796 he was the Senior Chancellor's medallist. Since he had taken his degree he had also twice succeeded in gaining the Members' prize.

In the long vacation of 1795 Mr. Butler acted as tutor in the family of Thomas Eyton, Esq., of Wellington, Shrop-

<sup>1</sup> The pensions assigned were £100 to Mr. Atcherley, £75 to Mr. Johnson, £50 to Mr. Matthewes, and £20 to Mr. Rowland. Mr. Johnson was offered the living of Chirbury in part payment of his pension.

<sup>2</sup> *Samuel Butler* was sprung from an old yeoman stock in Warwickshire. His father, William Butler, was a draper of Kenilworth, and had been married fourteen years before his only son Samuel was born on January 30th, 1774. The boy was sent to Rugby School in 1783 on the advice of Captain Patrick Don, a gentleman who lodged in his parents' house, and who, presumably, had been struck with the promise he displayed. At Rugby, Walter Savage Landor, William Hill (afterwards Lord Berwick), and Cary, translator of Dante, were among his contemporaries. A school-fellow describes young Butler, when a Rugby boy, as devoted to fishing, novel reading, and play reading, but always shining above everyone in form, though with hardly any preparation, and often writing off while still in bed the best exercise of the day. (*Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. ii.) In 1791 he was entered at Christ Church, Oxford; but an accidental introduction to Dr. Samuel Parr in September of that year led to a complete change of plans. On Dr. Parr's advice Butler was entered at St. John's College, Cambridge, on October 14th, 1791, and immediately afterwards went into residence.

shire, whose eldest son had been a school-fellow of his at Rugby. Mr. Eyton was one of the chief promoters of the movement for bringing about a reform of the system of management of Shrewsbury School, and it was probably owing to his suggestions that Mr. Butler first entertained the notion of offering himself as a candidate for the head-mastership when the proposed changes should be effected.<sup>1</sup> A few months after taking his degree in 1796 Mr. Butler became engaged to be married, and thought at first of settling down somewhere in the country with the view of taking pupils. But he was dissuaded from this by his old master, Dr. James, who urged him strongly to seek in preference the head-mastership of some endowed grammar school. The fact that Dr. James was in Shropshire at the time he wrote this advice to his old pupil reminded Mr. Butler no doubt of his former notions about Shrewsbury School, and made him write in return that Shrewsbury was a place where he might have influence to help him. Dr. James consequently made it his business while in the neighbourhood to learn all he could about the state of things at Shrewsbury, and his report to Butler as to future prospects was favourable. Happily for the school Mr. Butler made up his mind to follow his old master's advice, and soon after the Act of 1798 was passed he was elected by his college Head Master of Shrewsbury.<sup>2</sup> The gentleman chosen at the same time for the second-mastership was the Rev. William Adams, M.A., of Pembroke College, Oxford.

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 15.

<sup>2</sup> The election seems to have taken place in July. Mr. Butler was already Head Master when Mr. Sleath, the second master of Rugby, wrote to him on August 1st, 1798. (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,583.)

## CHAPTER XV.

Samuel Butler, D.D., Head Master, 1798-1836.

THE newly-appointed Head Master of Shrewsbury was married on September 4th, 1798, at Great St. Andrew's Church, Cambridge, to Harriet, fifth daughter of Dr. East Apthorp, Rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, Vicar of Croydon, and Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, and on Monday, October 1st, he was formally installed in office by the school trustees. Two days before, the Rev. William Adams<sup>1</sup> had resigned the second-mastership, to which he had been appointed by St. John's College in the previous July.

From a letter<sup>2</sup> written to Mr. Butler by Mr. Sleath, the second master of Rugby, on August 1st, in answer to certain enquiries as to his position at Rugby, it appears that the new Head Master of Shrewsbury was prepared for the possibility of difficulties arising between Mr. Adams and himself as to their relative position and authority, and that he had fully made up his mind to assert his right to control the methods of teaching and disciplinary arrangements throughout the school. Probably some communications on the subject had passed between Mr. Butler and Mr. Adams before they met at Shrewsbury in September; but, at any rate, it is certain that, before the Head Master was installed on October 1st, they had found their views as to their respective rights to be irreconcilable, and that, the Head Master's view being

<sup>1</sup> *William Adams*, son of Mr. John Adams, of Shrewsbury, matriculated at Pembroke College, Oxford, on May 20th, 1779, aged thirteen. He graduated B.A. in 1783, M.A. in 1785, and B.D. and D.D. in 1808.

<sup>2</sup> See Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,583.



DR. BUTLER  
HEAD MASTER 1798—1836





supported by the trustees, Mr. Adams resigned his office on September 29th.<sup>1</sup>

Early in November, Mr. John Jeudwine, M.A., of St. John's College, who had graduated as tenth Wrangler in 1794, was elected second master in his place. Unfortunately it does not seem to have occurred to the master and fellows of St. John's, some of whom,<sup>2</sup> at any rate, were acquainted with the cause of Mr. Adams' resignation, and sympathised with Mr. Butler as to the questions at issue, to impress upon Mr. Jeudwine, before his formal election, the true nature of the position he would occupy at Shrewsbury, and the same difficulties, which had led to Mr. Adam's resignation, arose again in Mr. Jeudwine's case.

Within six months from the reopening of the school we find Mr. Butler writing a formal letter<sup>3</sup> to the second master, courteously though emphatically expressed, requesting "once more" his attention to the directions he had given as to "the manner of education and conduct of the school." It is plain that the relations between the two masters had already become greatly strained. Mr. Butler's letter is written in the third person, and the copy of it, which he preserved, is attested by witnesses. But Mr. Jeudwine did not follow Mr. Adams' example in resigning, although he continued to feel himself aggrieved in the matter to the end of his career at the school.

One of Mr. Butler's first acts after his arrival at Shrewsbury was to write to Dr. James, his old master at Rugby, to ask his advice as to various points of school management. This request drew from Dr. James three long letters giving a full account of the system he had followed at Rugby, interspersed with occasional comments and some special suggestions.

<sup>1</sup> His formal resignation is preserved among the town records.

<sup>2</sup> On October 13th, 1798, Mr. Catton, one of the fellows of St. John's, wrote to Mr. Butler, congratulating him on the result of his contest with Mr. Adams, a result which, he added, had "prevented all similar pretensions for the future and fully established his authority." Mr. Catton mentioned Mr. Jeudwine as a candidate for the vacant post, speaking favourably of his character and acquirements. On November 5th, Dr. E. Outram, the public orator, another fellow of St. John's, wrote to inform Mr. Butler that, no other candidates having offered themselves, Mr. Jeudwine had been duly elected second master. (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,583.)

<sup>3</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 44.

It is interesting to notice that the Rugby Head Master did not omit to suggest the advisability of occasionally testing the younger boys' knowledge of *private prayers*. He also recommended the establishment of a school library, to which every boy should contribute, both on entering the school and on leaving. The list of books recommended would be somewhat startling to boys of the present day.<sup>1</sup> In many senses Shrewsbury School made a new beginning when Mr. Butler was appointed Head Master. The Rev. F. E. Gretton, in his *Memory's Harkback*, mentions a tradition of his school-days that Butler began work with one boy, and Dr. Monk, Bishop of Gloucester, writing to Dr. Butler in 1835, speaks of his having found "a school with only a single scholar."<sup>2</sup> But facts hardly bear out the accuracy of this current story, for Dr. Butler, in a draft of a letter to the Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, dated December 9th, 1835, says definitely that there were two boarders at the school when he came.<sup>3</sup> There exists also among the Butler MSS. a draft of a paper which the Head Master prepared in October, 1832, with the view of making the Duchess of Kent acquainted with certain facts about the school before her promised visit should take place. In this document Dr. Butler expressly states that when he came to Shrewsbury in 1798 he did not find more than twenty boys in the school, of whom all but two were sons of burgesses.<sup>4</sup>

The new Head Master's work was made somewhat difficult at first by the rapid influx of town boys of all ages from sixteen downwards, none of whom had received any regular education, and whom, as sons of burgesses, he could not refuse to admit. Other boys came as boarders, some from public or private schools, and some from their nurseries. Two of them, as we have seen, were not new to Shrewsbury School, having been there in Mr. Atcherley's time. They appear to have boarded in the house of the Rev. James Matthewes, the

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 25-39.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 128.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 124.

<sup>4</sup> Additional MSS. British Museum, 34,588.

late third master. Among the boys who were admitted as boarders during Mr. Butler's first few months at Shrewsbury were two whom he had received on apparently good recommendations, but who turned out subsequently to have been previously expelled from the Charterhouse. These boys went off to the Shrewsbury races one day—without leave, of course—and returned home drunk at eleven o'clock at night. The next morning they refused to submit to a flogging, and used violence in resisting. For this and continued contumacy both boys were afterwards expelled. The story seems to have been grossly misrepresented, and to have given rise to much gossip in the town as to the new Head Master's severity. Discipline again had been so long in abeyance in Mr. Atcherley's time that every flogging of which the townspeople heard was regarded as an additional proof of the alleged severity. Unfortunately too, as he himself subsequently thought, Mr. Butler had made up his mind when he came to Shrewsbury that he would not mix at all in town society. The consequence was that mischievous calumnies about him were circulated in Shrewsbury without his having any opportunity of refuting them, or even of hearing that they were afloat.<sup>1</sup> The constrained and unfriendly relations which for nearly twenty years existed between the head and second masters, and which, after

<sup>1</sup> See *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 49. The testimonial, signed in 1806 by nine of the school trustees, five of whom had sons who had been, or still were, Mr. Butler's pupils, in which the charge of undue severity against the Head Master is characterised as a "malignant falsehood," seems conclusive on the point. It must, however, be borne in mind that there were still living a few years ago old Shrewsbury boys who spoke with considerable respect of Butler's left-handed floggings, and that his own statement, that out of fifty or sixty boys he did not on the average flog more than twelve a year, shows that flogging was about as common at Shrewsbury in the early years of this century as it was at other public schools. Mr. Gretton, who was at Shrewsbury from 1815 to 1822, says that floggings were frequent, but not severe, and that preaching was not added to the flogging. Apparently he sympathised with the nigger, who did not object much to "preachee" or "floggee" separately, but protested against their coming together. But schoolboys are hard to please, and an old Salopian, still living, who had large experience of Butler's floggings, declares that they would have been much more effective if accompanied by a few kindly words of advice or remonstrance.



some years' cessation, were again renewed during the last few years in which they were colleagues, must also have been a serious impediment to the prosperity of Shrewsbury School.

Mr. Butler, indeed, had been nearly twenty years at work before the condition of the school could fairly be described as prosperous. It is not surprising then to find that when Dr. Ingles, who had succeeded Dr. James as Head Master of Rugby, resigned his office in 1806, Mr. Butler was desirous of returning to his old school as its chief. Happily, however, for Shrewsbury, his candidature was not successful.<sup>1</sup> About this time Dr. James Cornwallis, Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, collated Mr. Butler to a prebendal stall at Lichfield. He was already in charge of two cures, the chapelry of Berwick,<sup>2</sup> near Shrewsbury, which he had held since 1801, and the Vicarage of Kenilworth, to which he had been presented by Lord Clarendon in 1802. The year in which Mr. Butler was rejected for Rugby is also noteworthy for the commencement of that wonderful series of university distinctions which his Shrewsbury pupils were destined to gain. The school-room in which the Head Master used to teach the sixth and upper fifth forms in those days was the room on the ground floor, which was in later times appropriated, first to the fourth form, and then to the shell. On the oaken panels of this room were painted the names of all Shrewsbury boys who gained university scholarships or prizes, or took first classes at Oxford or Cambridge. The first name inscribed on these honour boards<sup>3</sup> was that of Thomas Smart Hughes,<sup>4</sup> who in 1806

<sup>1</sup> By this time Mr. Butler was well aware that injurious reports as to his over severity were prevalent in Shrewsbury, and he was inclined to attribute his rejection at Rugby to the existence of these rumours. But his friend, Mr. William Hill, afterwards Lord Berwick, ascertained for him from one of the Rugby trustees that his suspicion was without foundation. (*Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 50.)

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Butler retained the Berwick chapelry till April 7th, 1815. He was succeeded there by the Rev. Evan Griffith, one of the assistant masters, who had for some years shared with him the conduct of the services.

<sup>3</sup> The honour boards have, of course, followed the school to its new home on Kingsland.

<sup>4</sup> *T. S. Hughes* also won the Browne medal for a Greek ode in 1807 and one of the Members' prizes in 1809 and 1810. He was a son of the Rev. Hugh Hughes,



SIXTH FORM ROOM UNDER DR. BUTLER  
AFTERWARDS THE SHELL



gained the Browne medal for a Latin ode on the death of Nelson.

The year 1809 saw the publication of the first volume of an edition of *Æschylus*, which Mr. Butler undertook for the syndics of the University Press at Cambridge a year or two before he was appointed to Shrewsbury. The prolonged and somewhat acrimonious controversy which followed the appearance of a review of this work in the *Edinburgh* by Mr. C. J. Blomfield, afterwards Bishop of London, has been fully dealt with by Professor Mayor<sup>1</sup> and also by Mr. Samuel Butler,<sup>2</sup> the grandson of the Head Master, and would need no further mention in a history of Shrewsbury School, were it not for an incident of some interest which happened about thirty-six years later, and which shows us that the controversy was not confined to the pages of reviews and the halls of colleges, but was fought out also in the ball court at Shrewsbury, or in some other appropriate place where the boys were in the habit of settling their temporary differences. In 1846 the Rev. G. Matthews, in making an appeal to the Bishop of London for aid in restoring his church, recalled to his mind the old dispute between the two Greek scholars, and told him of a fight which he had had on the subject with a brother of T. S. Hughes, of which he still bore the scars, and in which he was the champion of the Blomfield

Rector of Hardwick and curate of Nuneaton, and was three years at Shrewsbury before proceeding to St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1804. B.A., 1808; M.A., 1811; B.D., 1818; assistant master at Harrow, 1809-1811. Returned to Cambridge on being elected fellow of his college in 1811, and resided there for the greater part of his life. Ordained in 1815, and left St. John's to be fellow and tutor of Trinity Hall. The change did not bring Mr. Hughes prosperity, and in 1817 he accepted a fellowship at Emmanuel. In the same year the Seatonian prize was adjudged to him for a poem on Belshazzar's Feast. Appointed examining chaplain to Dr. Marsh, Bishop of Peterborough, in 1819; Christian advocate in the University of Cambridge, 1822. Mr. Hughes was a prominent supporter of the proposal to establish a classical tripos at Cambridge, and acted as examiner in 1824, 1826, and 1828; Prebendary of Peterborough, 1827; Rector of Fiskerton, in Lincolnshire, and of his family living of Hardwick, 1832; curate of Edgware, 1846. Died August 11th, 1847. Author of *Travels in Greece and Albania*, a continuation of HUME's and SMOLLETT's *Hist. of England*, and many other works. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>1</sup> In his edition of BAKER's *History of St. John's College*.

<sup>2</sup> In the *Life and Letters of Dr. Samuel Butler*.



side of the question.<sup>1</sup> In this same year, 1809, two Shrewsbury boys distinguished themselves in the mathematical tripos—John Evans,<sup>2</sup> of Clare Hall, who was sixth Wrangler, and W. R. Gilby,<sup>3</sup> of Trinity College, who was seventh Wrangler.

In 1810 Mr. Butler took his doctor's degree, apparently at the suggestion of Dr. Samuel Parr. The story runs that when the Head Master complained one day to his friend of the difficulty of keeping the boys under due control, Parr's advice was, "Wear a wig, Thir." His counsel was followed, and for a time Mr. Butler invariably assumed a wig when he entered school; but the boys found out the place where the wig was hung, when not in use, and took liberties with it. Once again Dr. Parr was consulted. This time his answer was, "Wear a broader brim, Thir." So Mr. Butler made up his mind to seek from his university the right to wear the scarlet gown and hood.<sup>3</sup> It is probable that the opposition, which was offered in the Senate to the necessary grace, was due mainly to the recent controversy between Mr. Butler and Mr. C. J. Blomfield. But Thomas Smart Hughes, in an amusing letter which he wrote to his old schoolmaster after the voting in the Senate House was over, ascribes it to the chronic ill-will on the part of Trinity men towards their Johnian neighbours, and gleefully boasts of the craft of Butler's friends in getting the grace proposed on Trinity Commemoration Day.<sup>4</sup> A few weeks later, Robert Wilson Evans,<sup>5</sup> of Trinity College, a native of

<sup>1</sup> The story was first told in the *Memoir of Bishop Blomfield*, by ALFRED BLOMFIELD, M.A. G. Matthews must have been quite a new boy at the time of his fight, as he only entered school in February, 1809. He graduated at Cambridge and took orders, and was for many years a curate in Sussex. In 1833 Bishop Maltby, at Dr. Butler's intercession, presented him to the living of Rudgwick, near Horsham. (*Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 53.)

<sup>2</sup> *Mr. John Evans* and *Mr. W. R. Gilby* were both elected fellows of their respective colleges.

<sup>3</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 63.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 64.

<sup>5</sup> *Robert Wilson Evans* was second son of John Evans, Esq., M.D., of Llwynyngroes, Oswestry, and was born at the Council House, Shrewsbury, on August 30th, 1789. He seems to have remained at school for ten years; B.A., 1811; M.A., 1814; B.D., 1842; elected fellow of Trinity in 1813, and

Shrewsbury, and one of Butler's earliest pupils, graduated as seventh Wrangler, and carried off the second Chancellor's medal. His name became in after years very familiar to English church people in connection with the authorship of *The Bishopric of Souls*, *The Rectory of Valehead*, *Tales of the Ancient British Church*, and other books of a religious character.

A still more brilliant scholar, Marmaduke Lawson, went up to Cambridge from Shrewsbury in 1811. He was at first a member of St. John's College, but after a few months' residence he migrated to Magdalene. In 1812 Lawson gained the Browne medal for a Latin ode. In 1814 he was elected Pitt university scholar, and in 1816 he was bracketed Chancellor's medallist with John Graham, of Christ's College, afterwards Bishop of Chester. His letters to Dr. Butler are humorous and clever, and he shows similar characteristics in a parody on *Gray's Bard*, written to commemorate an attempt by the Vice-Chancellor to suppress the Union Society at Cambridge, and in other ephemeral productions. He was three times elected M.P. for Boroughbridge in Yorkshire, but his political career was brief, as he died before reaching the age of thirty.<sup>1</sup>

for some years a tutor of that college. In 1836 Dr. Butler, after he was appointed to the See of Lichfield and Coventry, made him his examining chaplain and gave him the living of Tarvin in Cheshire. In 1842 Mr. Evans accepted the college living of Heversham, and from 1856 to 1865 he was Archdeacon of Westmorland. He died on March 10th, 1866. It appears from a letter written to Dr. Butler, that in 1818 Mr. Evans was a candidate for the Woodwardian Professorship of Geology at Cambridge. He had been for some years a geological student, and felt much aggrieved, he tells Dr. Butler, that he should be opposed by Mr. Sedgwick, a man so little qualified that his friends only ventured to say in his favour that three months' study would be sufficient to qualify him. This statement of Mr. Evans as to Professor Sedgwick's ignorance of geology at the time of his election is amply confirmed by the writer of his memoir in the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.* (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,584.)

<sup>1</sup> *Marmaduke Lawson*, who was eldest son of the Rev. Marmaduke Lawson, of Boroughbridge, was born in 1794, and was at Shrewsbury School for four years before going up to Cambridge. He graduated B.A. in 1816 and M.A. in 1819, and was elected fellow of Magdalene College. In 1818 he published a pamphlet in answer to an attack made by the Rev. F. H. Maberley on the morality and discipline of the university which displays much of the quaint humour which pervades his letters. (See *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 76.)

Up to the year 1812 the Shrewsbury boys appear to have been in the habit of attending the services at St. Mary's Church on Sundays. But in that year Dr. Butler, apparently without consulting the trustees, gave up the practice of going to St. Mary's and had service in school chapel instead, both morning and afternoon. Unfortunately the school trustees, though consenting to the afternoon service in chapel, refused to sanction the change so far as Sunday morning was concerned, in spite of the cogent reasons Dr. Butler urged in favour of making it;<sup>1</sup> and from that time forth, until the school was moved to Kingsland, it remained the custom at Shrewsbury for the boarders to attend morning service at the parish church. In one of his letters to the trustees on this subject Dr. Butler speaks of the school numbers as increasing; and there is no doubt that, after he had been about ten years at Shrewsbury, his prospects there began to look far more hopeful than had hitherto been the case.<sup>2</sup> But the increase in numbers, though steady, was by no means rapid, and in 1815 Dr. Butler thought seriously of becoming a candidate for the head-mastership of the Grammar School at Leeds.<sup>3</sup> But in the following year the number of admissions was largely increased, and after 1816 the only difficulty about numbers that ever occurred in Dr. Butler's time was how to find room for the boys.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,583.

<sup>2</sup> In 1809 Dr. Butler's house was full, or nearly so, as we learn from a letter of his to the Rev. Evan Griffith. (*Ibid.*, 34,583.)

<sup>3</sup> In the Butler MSS. in the British Museum there is a long letter to Dr. Butler, signed J. Sheepshanks, and evidently written at his request, in which full information is given as to the duties, emoluments, etc., of the Leeds head-mastership. The writer, if not one of the Leeds masters, was, at any rate, a resident in the town.

<sup>4</sup> In 1814, as we learn from a letter which Dr. Butler wrote to the trustees, enclosing some correspondence between himself and Mr. Jeudwine, there were forty-eight boys in his house, but only four in Mr. Jeudwine's. The Head Master had, by this time, become possessed of a second house in School Lane, and he told the trustees, as he had already told Mr. Jeudwine, that he proposed to open a second boarding-house. On the merits of the plan the trustees declined to express any opinion. By 1817 the new house was in full operation, and Dr. Butler had in that year seventy boarders in his two houses. In 1818 this number had increased to eighty-one. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,584.)



In the autumn of 1817 a young fellow named Abraham Cawston, who had just left Shrewsbury School, became the subject of almost universal conversation and interest throughout England under the sobriquet of "The Fortunate Youth." This boy was a son of Mr. John Cawston, of Chippenham, near Newmarket, and was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1815, being then fifteen years old. He seems to have possessed good abilities, having risen in two years' time to be third boy in the school. But he is described by one of his school-fellows<sup>1</sup> as given to shamming himself "out of school" in order to devour novels and romances. In the course of the summer holidays of 1817 Cawston had an attack of typhus fever, from which he had not sufficiently recovered to be able to return to Shrewsbury when the school reopened at the beginning of August.<sup>2</sup> There seems no doubt that his brain was affected by this illness, and soon after he became convalescent, aided, we may suppose, by his extensive acquaintance with works of fiction, the boy concocted a marvellous romance about himself, which appears to have been accepted, not only by his own immediate relations, but by business men, bankers, lawyers, and others, on whom, as a rule, it is not easy to practise imposition. Probably Cawston told his story to his family before returning to school after his illness.<sup>3</sup> There is no doubt of the fact

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. F. E. Gretton. (See his *Memory's Harkback*.)

<sup>2</sup> The boy was taken ill at Edinburgh, but was convalescent when his father wrote to Dr. Butler on August 5th, and was expected home immediately. Mr. Cawston would have preferred his son to go back to Shrewsbury straight from Scotland, but the boy's mother was anxious to see him at home first. The father added that he intended him to return to school shortly, and that he hoped to keep him there till the time came for him to go to college in October, 1818. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,584.)

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Butler's biographer assumes (*Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 134, 135) that Cawston never returned to school after his illness. But the evidence of the school register is conclusive of the fact that the boy did not leave Shrewsbury till October 2nd, 1817. If it be true that Cawston's delusions were due in the main to his illness, and that, on the strength of the story he told his family, £1200 was placed at his disposal by his brother-in-law, the occasions on which Dr. Butler was surprised at the boy's "profuse supply of money" must have been subsequent to the summer holidays of 1817. Cawston appears to have gone home on October 2nd, probably in order to have an interview with Mr. Weatherly, the solicitor who had undertaken to manage his affairs, and



that while he was still at Shrewsbury Dr. Butler was struck with "the profuse supply of money which he always appeared to have," and wrote to remonstrate with his father on the subject. And this money, as it afterwards transpired, was advanced to him, either by his brother-in-law or by his uncle, on the strength of his romantic story.<sup>1</sup>

The story was as follows. Some two years before, Cawston, on his way back to school, made acquaintance with an old gentleman in the stage-coach, who subsequently invited him to come to his house in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury. Not long afterwards, the old gentleman, whom he found living in a very humble way, told him that he was possessed of enormous wealth, and held out hopes that he would make him his heir. Ultimately, in the course of the year 1817, his mysterious friend had made him a deed of gift of his whole fortune, earnestly requesting at the same time that the iron chest, in which the deed of gift and other important documents were deposited, should not be opened before January, 1818. Soon after this Cawston's benefactor died. "The fortunate youth" left Shrewsbury on October 2nd, and rumours of his strange story and wonderful prospects soon began to find their way into the newspapers. Gradually the details of his enormous but quite imaginary possessions were unfolded. They included a palace in Spain, with a valuable picture gallery, and extensive estates, not only in that country, but in Italy and Germany as well. His property in England alone was said to exceed half a million in value. Mr. Weatherly, a Newmarket solicitor of high reputation, was so persuaded of the truth of the

while he was at home it was arranged that he should not return to school again. Mr. Cawston wrote to this effect on October 15th. It is evident from his letter that Dr. Butler was now informed for the first time of the great property of which Abraham Cawston was supposed to be the possessor. Mr. Cawston's reference to his last letter to Dr. Butler, in which, he said, he had expressed his intention of going to Shrewsbury with his son when he returned, is also conclusive of the fact that the boy had only recently gone home. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,584.)

<sup>1</sup> According to Mr. Gunning, the relation who placed £1200 at Cawston's disposal was his uncle. But Dr. Cory, the master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who appears to have had his information directly from the Cawston family, says it was his brother-in-law. (*Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 142.)

story that he accepted instructions from young Cawston for his will, and consented to act as his executor. He also took the requisite steps for having him made a ward of Chancery. So clear and precise were "the fortunate youth's" statements, so pleasing his manners and address, and so modest and self-restrained did he show himself when large advances of money were pressed upon him,<sup>1</sup> that the public delusion about him lasted nearly three months. But Cawston became at last over-confident, and ventured to ask a few gentlemen to dinner in London for the purpose of getting their opinion on the merits of some Sicilian wine which he represented as made from grapes grown on his own estates. A doubting guest, thinking he recognized the stamp on one of the corks as belonging to a well-known firm of wine merchants, made inquiries on the subject, and ascertained that the firm had recently supplied Cawston with Sicilian wine.<sup>2</sup>

The first public expression of distrust came from the *Morning Chronicle* of December 11th, 1817, and it soon became generally known that there was no foundation for any part of "the fortunate youth's" story. Cawston seems to have left England soon after the exposure of his deception in the matter of the Sicilian wine and to have gone to Italy. But some months elapsed before the fool's paradise in which he had been living entirely disappeared, or, as his father expressed it, "his eyes were opened to the duplicity of which he had been guilty."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See GUNNING'S *Reminiscences*. Mr. Gunning says that Cawston might, if he had liked, have "availed himself of thousands which were offered him."

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Cawston returned to England after a time, and subsequently settled down to educational work at Flempton, near Bury. From this place he wrote to his old master on April 25th, 1826, asking him for a testimonial as to his position in Shrewsbury School at the time he left, in the hopes that this might supply in some respects the want of a university degree. (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,586.) Ultimately he was ordained. In November, 1839, he wrote to Dr. Butler, who was then Bishop of Lichfield, asking him for a testimonial or recommendation. With this request Dr. Butler not unnaturally declined to comply, on account of the many years which had elapsed since any communication had passed between them. Cawston is supposed to have died about 1840. (*Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 143 and vol. ii. p. 350.)

Several communications seem to have passed between Dr. Butler and Cawston soon after the boy left school, and the doctor gave his pupil much good advice as to the necessity of being on his guard against designing people. He recommended him to place himself "under the care of some able and highly respectable man at the university." The whole business must have caused great annoyance to Dr. Butler, not only because he had been so completely taken in by one of his own boys, but because it turned out afterwards that Cawston had spoken abusively of Shrewsbury School, and had made Dr. Butler a witness to the truth of his story by quoting the remonstrances which he had addressed to his father about the superabundant supply of pocket-money with which he seemed to be furnished at school.<sup>1</sup>

The following year, 1818, is notable for an "Epidemic of Turbulence" which seems to have spread through most of the public schools of England. From Dr. Butler's correspondence with the Head Masters of Eton and Winchester it appears that both these schools, as well as the Charterhouse and the Military College at Sandhurst, had suffered from "the epidemic." Dr. Butler, indeed, asserts that among the leading schools there was only one real exception. The chief incidents of insubordination which are mentioned in connection with Shrewsbury are "boar hunting" with a neighbouring farmer's pigs,<sup>2</sup> getting up fights in the town, breaking the windows in the school library and the Head Master's study, and posting up a placard in Hall threatening Dr. Butler with personal violence. It appears from the circulars that were subsequently sent to parents that the chief grievance alleged by the boys as an excuse for their insubordination was a want of sufficient food. Other grievances of which there is mention were the "encroachments" made by the Head Master and his use of "public punishments" where "private punishments" would have sufficed.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 140, 141.

<sup>2</sup> The *boar hunting* is described by one of the boys, F. E. Gretton, in a letter written at the time of the disturbances to his father, the Dean of Hereford, as "most brutal and disgraceful," (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,584.)

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 34,584.



A general fine seems to have been levied to meet the cost of replacing the broken windows, the Head Master undertaking to exempt from payment Mr. Jeudwine's boarders, as well as the day boys, if it should appear that only three boys at most in each case had taken part in the disturbances.<sup>1</sup> Three of the ringleaders were "expelled" on November 21st, and five other boys were "dismissed" from the school at the end of the half-year.<sup>2</sup>

Writing on December 6th, 1818, to his old antagonist, the Rev. C. J. Blomfield, with whom he was now completely reconciled, Dr. Butler expressed a hope that he had by that time chained those "luctantes ventos tempestatesque sonoras," which had given him such "a stirring half-year," as completely as "their old master in Virgil."<sup>3</sup>

About the same time Dr. Wood, the Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, wrote to Dr. Butler to express the thankfulness felt by "every member of the university interested in the support of discipline" for his firmness in resisting "the turbulence and self-will of presumptuous boys."<sup>4</sup>

The Rev. S. Tilbrook, too, his humorous correspondent and brother angler, joined in the chorus of congratulations, satirising the boys' complaints of insufficient food by an amusing

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 156-162.

<sup>2</sup> One of the three boys in question was a præpostor who had been sentenced to "dismissal" on November 19th, and was to have left for home early the next morning. The immediate offence which caused his "dismissal" was his sending a notice round the town by the bellman that some particular boy, of whom he disapproved, had been made a præpostor. But in the course of the night, accompanied by two other boys, he broke out of the house and ran away, leaving an angry and abusive letter for the Doctor behind him. It was after this occurrence that the three boys were "expelled." Dr. Butler announced their expulsion publicly in school, and although it is evident from the inquiries which he subsequently made on the subject of the Head Masters of Winchester, Eton, and Harrow that he would have liked, if possible, to modify the sentence which he had somewhat hastily passed upon them, he felt it impossible to do so in the face of the opinion expressed by all three Head Masters that such a course was unusual and undesirable. No steps, however, were taken by him to communicate the fact of the expulsion to the college tutors at Oxford and Cambridge. He urged, indeed, the parents of two of the boys to get them admitted at some college immediately, and one of them, as a matter of fact, matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, on November 28th. (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,584.)

<sup>3</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 161.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 163.



account of the rapacious appetite of an old school-fellow, whose performances, as he describes them,<sup>1</sup> can only be compared to those ascribed to St. Patrick in the old song :—

“ St. Patrick was a gentleman, who came of decent people,” etc.

In 1820 two bills were introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Brougham, which, in Dr. Butler's opinion, affected injuriously the future prospects of the Endowed Grammar Schools of England and tended to lower the tone of public education. These bills were vigorously attacked by Dr. Butler in a published letter to Henry Brougham, Esq., M.P., dated October 19th, 1820. The clauses which the writer considered specially objectionable and dangerous were those that enabled any school authorities to whom the election of masters was entrusted—

(1) To require any master appointed after the passing of the bills to teach *reading, writing, and accounts*.

(2) To regulate the number of boarders he might receive, or to restrain him from taking any boarders at all.

(3) To oblige him to receive into the school any number of scholars on any terms they might please to impose.

It seems strange at first sight that Dr. Butler should have entertained any objection to the masters of Grammar Schools being required to teach “ *reading, writing, and accounts*.” Mathematics were taught, and effectively taught,<sup>2</sup> at Shrewsbury in his time, although it was almost entirely as private lessons and not as part of the regular school work. There was a writing master also from the first, though a special fee was charged for his lessons. But Dr. Butler's objections to the proposed regulation went deeper doubtless than this; it is evident that he regarded the clause in question as directed against classical instruction and intended to facilitate the substitution of commercial education for classical education in Endowed Grammar Schools. Taking this view of the object of the clause Dr. Butler naturally

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 162.

<sup>2</sup> Between 1808 and 1840 twenty-eight Shrewsbury men obtained a Wrangler's place in the Mathematical Tripos at Cambridge, and one gained a first class in mathematics at Oxford.

laid stress, in his letter to Mr. Brougham, on the injury which would be done to parents if their sons were deprived of an education calculated to qualify them for the learned professions.

In answer to the other proposals of the bills Dr. Butler argued that it would be impossible to provide a stipend sufficient to attract men of distinction if the masters of Grammar Schools were not allowed to take boarders, and incidentally he pointed out that at the time of its original foundation Shrewsbury School was intended for the use of town boys and strangers indiscriminately.

It should be mentioned that one of the clauses of Mr. Brougham's bills, as amended in committee, exempted certain schools—Eton, Westminster, Winchester, Harrow, the Charterhouse, and Rugby—from the effect of the proposed legislation.<sup>1</sup>

As soon as Dr. Butler had ascertained that it was intended to make an exception in favour of these schools on the ground of their being "public schools" he wrote to the Hon. H. G. Bennet, M.P., asserting in strong terms the claims of Shrewsbury to be placed "on at least as favourable a footing as any of these schools," and subsequently, on January 21st, 1821, he published a second letter to Mr. Brougham, in which the claims of Shrewsbury to be a "public school" in the same sense as the six exempted schools were carefully and ably set forth.

Dr. Butler had originally intended to address the second letter to the Right Hon. C. J. Villiers, M.P.,<sup>2</sup> but Mr. Brougham had behaved so courteously with regard to the first letter that he thought it better to address the second letter to him also.

To those acquainted in the most elementary way with the history of Shrewsbury School Dr. Butler's arguments are

<sup>1</sup> See BAKER'S *Hist. of St. John's College* (Ed. Mayor).

<sup>2</sup> It was by the advice of Mr. Villiers that Dr. Butler dealt separately with his general objections to Mr. Brougham's bills and the claims of Shrewsbury to exemption from their effect. Mr. Villiers expressed his opinion that there would be no difficulty in getting Shrewsbury put in the list of exempted schools. (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,585.)

familiar enough at the present day ; but as he was the first person to put them forward publicly, it is only fair to his memory to repeat them, much as he stated them to Mr. Brougham. In the first place he calls attention to Camden's statement, made originally in 1586, that Shrewsbury was the best-filled school in all England. Secondly, he points out that the original Charter of Edward VI. was granted at the request, not only of the burgesses of Shrewsbury, but also of the inhabitants of all the neighbouring country.

He also lays stress on the facts—

(3) That boys from all parts of the kingdom resorted to Shrewsbury School at the time of its foundation, as they did also at the time he was writing ;

(4) That among its distinguished scholars Shrewsbury could reckon Sir Philip Sidney ; Sir Fulke Greville ; Lord Brooke ; and Sir James Harrington, Bart., in the sixteenth century ; and Dr. John Taylor and Professor Edward Waring in the eighteenth century ;

(5) That boys were educated at Shrewsbury in the highest departments of literature ;

(6) That the school possessed ample endowments ;

(7) That in public honours gained at the universities Shrewsbury was worthy of comparison with any of the exempted schools ;

(8) That there were at the time he was writing as many as 160 boys on the school list, a number which might be largely increased with better accommodation ;

(9) And that among the existing scholars there were boys from twenty-eight different counties in England and Wales, besides several from Scotland and Ireland.

Mr. Brougham's bills were ultimately abandoned.<sup>1</sup>

In 1821 Dr. Butler was appointed Archdeacon of Derby by Dr. James Cornwallis, the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See BAKER's *Hist. of St. John's College, Cambridge* (Ed. Mayor).

<sup>2</sup> Dr. James Cornwallis became Earl Cornwallis in 1823 on the death of his nephew, the second marquis.



Early in the following year a remarkable pamphlet,<sup>1</sup> manifestly the work of a man who was, in theory at least, an advocate of sweeping reform in the whole educational system then in vogue at the universities, made its appearance. The author, who wrote under the pseudonym of "Eubulus," was Dr. Butler, but for manifest reasons he appears to have kept his identity a secret, even from his most intimate Cambridge friends. The ostensible object of the writer was to further the movement in favour of establishing a Classical Tripos at Cambridge, and as a matter of fact the Classical Tripos was instituted in the Lent Term of 1822. But many years went by before antiquities, chronology, geography, metrical and philological criticism, and ancient philosophy were included among the subjects of examination, as "Eubulus" wished them to be from the beginning.

The first Salopian who distinguished himself in the Classical Tripos was Edward Baines,<sup>2</sup> of Christ's College, who had already gained a Bell Scholarship and a Browne Medal, and who was in 1824 placed fourth in the first class. The year 1823 is memorable in the annals of Shrewsbury for the achievement of a sixth form boy to whom the Porson Prize and one of the Browne Medals were adjudged before he went into residence at Cambridge. This was Benjamin Hall Kennedy, who followed up this first success by gaining the Pitt university scholarship while still a freshman, and carrying off three more Browne Medals and two more Porson Prizes before he finished his undergraduate career

<sup>1</sup> Copious extracts from this pamphlet are given in *Dr. Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 211-215. Its appearance led to a somewhat angry controversy between "Eubulus" and Dr. Monk, the Dean of Peterborough, who had recently resigned the Greek Professorship at Cambridge. Dr. Monk wrote under the name of "Philograntus."

<sup>2</sup> *Edward Baines*, son of the Rev. James Baines, of Caignham, near Ludlow, was born in August, 1801. At Shrewsbury School, 1816-1821; head boy, February, 1821; B.A., 1824; M.A., 1828; assistant master at Shrewsbury, 1825 to 1829; fellow of Christ's College, 1825-1841; tutor, 1839-40; examiner for Classical Tripos, 1829, 1830, 1831. Travelled in Germany, Italy, and Sicily, 1833-1835; Proctor, 1837-38; Vicar of St. Giles, Cambridge; Rector of Clipston, 1840-1842; Rector of Bluntisham, 1843; Rector of Yalding, 1859-1882. Married Catherine Baines in 1844. Died at San Remo April 20th, 1882. A volume of his sermons has been published with a memoir by A. LARRY.



as Senior Classic and Senior Chancellor's Medallist. Other scholars quickly followed Kennedy from the sixth form room at Shrewsbury to gain triumphs at Oxford and Cambridge almost as brilliant as his own. From first to last Dr. Butler's Shrewsbury pupils who went up to Cambridge carried off seven university scholarships,<sup>1</sup> seven Chancellor's Medals, sixteen Browne Medals, and sixteen Porson Prizes; while twenty-eight of their number were placed in the first class of the Classical Tripos, of whom five had the honour of being Senior Classic. Between the years 1808 and 1840 also no less than twenty-eight Shrewsbury men gained a Wrangler's place in the Mathematical Tripos, and one of them, Charles Whitley,<sup>2</sup> of St. John's College, was Senior Wrangler in 1830.

Although a much smaller proportion of Shrewsbury men went up to Oxford than to Cambridge in Dr. Butler's time, their success was equally remarkable. Nine of their number gained university scholarships, and eleven were placed in the first class in *Literis Humanioribus*, one of whom, George Henry Johnson, of Queen's College, got a first class in mathematics and was also the first holder of the newly-founded university mathematical scholarship. Many of these Old Salopians as well as others whose success in the various university examinations was less marked, gained for themselves subsequently other and greater distinctions. William Thomson<sup>3</sup> became Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol and

<sup>1</sup> Bell Scholarships are not included in this estimate.

<sup>2</sup> *Charles Thomas Whitley*, son of John Whitley, Esq., of Liverpool, was born in 1809. At Shrewsbury School, 1821 to 1826; B.A., 1830; M.A., 1833; fellow of St. John's College, 1831; many years Professor of Mathematics in the University of Durham, and afterwards Vicar of Bedlington, Northumberland, and Hon. Canon of Durham; Examining Chaplain to Bishop of Newcastle, 1883; Hon. D.D. of Durham; J.P. for Northumberland. Died April 22nd, 1895, aged eighty-six.

<sup>3</sup> *William Thomson*, eldest son of Mr. John Thomson, of Whitehaven, Cumberland, was admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1831. Matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, June 2nd, 1836, aged nineteen. B.A., 1840; M.A., 1844; B.D. and D.D., 1856; fellow, 1840-1855; Provost, 1855-1861; Rector of All Saints', Marylebone, 1855; Preacher at Lincoln's Inn, 1855-1861; Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, 1861-1863; Archbishop of York, 1863-1891. Died Dec. 25th, 1891.

Archbishop of York; James Fraser,<sup>1</sup> Bishop of Manchester; and Mesac Thomas,<sup>2</sup> Bishop of Goulburn, in New South Wales; George Henry Johnson,<sup>3</sup> F.R.S., Savilian Professor of Astronomy and Whyte's Professor of Moral Philosophy at Oxford, and afterwards Dean of Wells; Robert Scott,<sup>4</sup> joint editor of the well-known Greek-English Lexicon, Master of Balliol, and afterwards Dean of Rochester; William Crawley,<sup>5</sup> Archdeacon of Monmouth; William Gilson

<sup>1</sup> *James Fraser*, son of James Fraser, Esq., of Prestbury, Gloucestershire, merchant. Born August 18th, 1818. At Bridgnorth School, 1832-1834; Shrewsbury, 1834-1836; matriculated at Lincoln College, Oxford, 1836; Ireland scholar, 1839; 1st class lit. hum., 1839; fellow of Oriel, 1840; tutor, 1842-1847; ordained, 1846; Examining Chaplain to Bishop Hamilton of Salisbury, 1854; Assistant Commissioner to Royal Commission on Education, 1858; Bishop of Manchester, 1870-1885. Died October 22nd, 1885. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Mesac Thomas*, son of Mr. John Thomas, of Mardol, Shrewsbury. Born 1816. Admitted at Shrewsbury School August 10th, 1831; matriculated at Trinity College, Cambridge, October, 1836; B.A., 1840; M.A., 1843; D.D., 1863; Bishop of Goulburn, 1863-1892. Before being appointed to the Bishopric of Goulburn Mr. Thomas was in succession Vicar of Tuddenham St. Martin, Suffolk; Vicar of Attleborough, near Nuneaton; and Secretary to the Colonial and Continental Society. Died March, 1892, aged seventy-five. (*Salopian.*)

<sup>3</sup> *George Henry Johnson*, third son of the Rev. Henry Johnson, of Shrewsbury. Born at Keswick in 1808. At Shrewsbury School, 1821-1825; matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, May 13th, 1825, aged seventeen; Ireland scholar, 1827; double first, 1828; university mathematical scholar, 1831; B.A., 1829; M.A., 1833; fellow, 1829-1855; Greek lecturer, chaplain, and tutor, 1842; Bursar, 1844; Dean, 1848; Savilian Professor of Astronomy, 1839-1842; Whyte's Professor of Moral Philosophy, 1842-1845; Dean of Wells, 1854. Died at Weston-super-Mare November 4th, 1881. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>4</sup> *Robert Scott*, son of the Rev. Alexander Scott, Rector of Egremont, Cumberland. Born January 26th, 1811. At school at St. Bees before going to Shrewsbury in 1826; matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, October 21st, 1829, aged eighteen; Student of Christ Church, 1830-1835; Craven scholar, 1830; Ireland scholar, 1833; 1st class lit. hum. 1833; fellow of Balliol, 1835-1840; M.A., 1836; Denyer's Theological Essay, 1838; Rector of Duloe, Cornwall, 1840-1850; Rector of South Luffenham, 1850-1854; Master of Balliol, 1854; Ireland Professor of Exegesis, 1861-1870; Dean of Rochester, 1870. Died December 2nd, 1887.

<sup>5</sup> *William Crawley*, son of the Rev. Richard Crawley, of Dublin. Born 1802. At Shrewsbury School, 1816-1820; B.A. (twenty-seventh Wrangler) of Magdalene College, Cambridge, 1824; M.A., 1827; fellow, 1824-1834; Rector of Llanfihangel-ystryn-Llewern, 1835-1858; Rector of Bryngwyn, 1834-1895; Archdeacon of Monmouth, 1843-1885; Canon of Llandaff, 1858-1885; J.P. for county of Monmouth. Died January 12th, 1896. (*Salopian.*)

Humphry,<sup>1</sup> Rector of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and Prebendary of St. Paul's; Thomas Williams,<sup>2</sup> Archdeacon, and afterwards Dean of Llandaff; and David Melville, Principal of Hatfield Hall, Durham, and Canon of Worcester, were all Shrewsbury men. Charles Robert Darwin,<sup>3</sup> M.A., F.R.S., F.G.S., the great naturalist, whose statue now adorns his native town, was at Shrewsbury School for seven years before going to Edinburgh and Cambridge, though his school-days do not seem to have had much influence in fashioning his future life.

The Right Hon. Thomas Emerson Headlam,<sup>4</sup> Q.C., M.P. for

<sup>1</sup> *William Gilson Humphry*, son of W. W. Humphry, Esq., of Sudbury, Suffolk. Born 1815. At Shrewsbury, 1828-1833; head boy in August, 1832; matriculated at Trinity College, Cambridge, 1833; Pitt scholar, 1835; twenty-seventh Wrangler, Senior Classic, and Junior Chancellor's Medallist, 1837; M.A., 1840; fellow, 1839; Proctor, 1845; ordained, 1842; Hulsean lecturer, 1849, 1850; Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of London, 1852; Rector of Northolt, Middlesex, 1852-1855; Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 1855-1886; Boyle lecturer, 1857-1858; Royal Commissioner on Clerical Subscription, 1865, and on ritual, 1869; one of the revisers of the Authorised Version of the New Testament, 1878. Published a Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles and various other theological works. Died January 14th, 1886. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Thomas Williams*, son of Robert Williams, Esq., of Monmouth. At Shrewsbury, 1814-1818; 1st class lit. hum., Oriel College, Oxford, 1822; B.A., 1823; M.A., 1825; Archdeacon of Llandaff, 1843-1859; Dean of Llandaff, 1843-1859. Died April 24th, 1877.

<sup>3</sup> *Charles Robert Darwin*, son of Dr. Robert Waring Darwin, of "the Mount," Shrewsbury. Born on February 12th, 1809. Admitted at Shrewsbury School in 1818. He did not like the classical part of his work, caring only for his Euclid lessons and the Odes of Horace; and Mr. Gretton describes him as "dull and apathetic" as a boy. His chief delight in those days was in making collections, which were not by any means confined to objects connected with natural history, including, as they did, coins, seals, and franks, as well as shells and minerals. Towards the end of his school-life he and his brother Erasmus set up a laboratory in the garden tool-house at "the Mount." Their chemical experiments earned for Charles Darwin the nickname of "Gas" from his school-fellows and a scolding from Dr. Butler, who rebuked him for wasting his time, and called him a *poco-curante*. In 1825 he joined his brother Erasmus at Edinburgh with the view of studying for the medical profession. But much of the work was distasteful to him, and when he went into residence at Christ's College, Cambridge, in February, 1828, all notions of his becoming a doctor had been given up. Full details as to his after-life may be found in his *Life and Letters* and in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

<sup>4</sup> *Thomas Emerson Headlam*, son of the Rev. John Headlam, Archdeacon of Richmond and Rector of Wycliffe in Yorkshire. Born 1813. Admitted at Shrewsbury School August 6th, 1827; seventeenth Wrangler in 1836; M.A., 1839; J.P. for the North Riding of Yorkshire. Died at Calais December 3rd, 1875. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)



Newcastle-on-Tyne from 1847 to 1850, Chancellor of the dioceses of Durham and Ripon, and Judge-Advocate-General in 1859, was at Shrewsbury for five years before entering Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1832.

Chief Justice May,<sup>1</sup> who graduated at Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1838 as thirty-sixth Wrangler and third Classic, was called to the Irish Bar in 1844, became Attorney-General for Ireland in 1875 and Lord Chief Justice of Ireland in 1877, was another eminent Salopian.

Sir Charles Thomas Newton,<sup>2</sup> K.C.B., Hon. D.C.L. of Oxford and Hon. LL.D. of Cambridge, the distinguished antiquarian, to whose untiring researches in Asia Minor our national collection of ancient sculpture is so much indebted, was a contemporary of Chief Justice May at school.

Another Salopian antiquary of some distinction in his day was the Rev. Charles Henry Hartshorne,<sup>3</sup> M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, F.S.A. Many of these are gone—but

Gathorne Hardy,<sup>4</sup> Lord Cranbrook, who represented the

<sup>1</sup> *George Augustus Chichester May*, son of the Rev. Edward May, Rector of Belfast. Born 1815. Admitted at Shrewsbury School February 25th, 1830; matriculated at Magdalene College, Cambridge, October, 1834; Bell's scholar, 1835; B.A., 1838; M.A., 1841; fellow of his college; Examiner in Classical Tripos, 1844; appointed Q.C. in 1865; legal adviser to the Castle, 1875; resigned his judgeship in 1887. Died August 16th, 1892. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> *Charles Thomas Newton*, second son of the Rev. Newton Dickinson Hand Newton, of Clungunford, Shropshire. Matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, October 17th, 1833, aged seventeen; B.A. (3rd class lit. hum.), 1837; student of Christ Church, 1837-1861; Vice-Consul at Mitylene and Acting-Consul at Rhodes, 1852; Consul at Rome, 1859-1861; Professor of Archæology in University College, London, 1880; Hon. fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, 1874; Hon. D.C.L., Oxford, 1874; Hon. LL.D., Cambridge, 1879; K.C.B., 1887; Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum, 1861. Died November 28th, 1894. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>3</sup> *Charles Henry Hartshorne*, son of John Hartshorne, Esq., of Liverpool. Born at Broseley in Shropshire in 1802. At Shrewsbury School, 1818-1821; B.A., 1825; M.A., 1828; ordained, 1826; curate of Benthall, Salop, 1826-1828; curate of Little Wenlock, 1828-1836; curate-in-charge of Cogenhoe, Northants, 1838-1850; Rector of Holderly, 1850-1865. Died at Holderly March 11th, 1865. Author of *Salopia Antiqua*. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>4</sup> *Gathorne Hardy*, third son of John Hardy, Esq., Recorder of Leeds. Born October 1st, 1814. At Shrewsbury School from August, 1827, to July, 1830; B.A. of Oriel College, Oxford (2nd class lit. hum.), 1837; called to the Bar, 1840; M.P. for Leominster, 1856-1865; Under-Secretary for Home Department, 1858-1859; Chief Secretary for Ireland, 1859; Chancellor of the Duchy of



University of Oxford in Parliament from 1865 to 1878 and has worthily filled many high offices of state, is happily still living.

The work, however, to which Shrewsbury men trained under Dr. Butler have taken most readily has been, undoubtedly, that of education.

In the report of the Public School Commission in 1864 mention is made of the extent to which Shrewsbury School has contributed to the teaching power of the universities, and no one can study the lists of its scholars who graduated at Oxford and Cambridge between 1800 and 1840 without being struck by the number of them who, during the best years of their lives, have done yeoman's service as professors, lecturers, tutors, and masters of colleges. Robert Wilson Evans, John Cooper,<sup>1</sup> Mynors Bright, Edward Warter, Thomas Smart Hughes, William Henry Bateson,<sup>2</sup> James Hildyard,<sup>3</sup>

Lancaster, 1861; Secretary for the Colonies, 1864; D.C.L., 1866; President of the Poor Law Board, 1866-1867; Bencher of Inner Temple, 1868; Home Secretary, 1867-1868; Secretary for War, 1868 and 1874-1878; Secretary for India, 1878-1880; Viscount Cranbrook, 1878; G.C.S.I., 1880; President of the Council, 1885 and 1886-1892; Earl of Cranbrook, 1892; J.P. and D.L. for West Riding of Yorkshire, and J.P. for Kent.

<sup>1</sup> *John Cooper*, son of Samuel Cooper, Esq., of Tranby Hall, Yorkshire. At Shrewsbury School, 1826-1831; B.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1835 (thirty-third Wrangler and seventh Classic); tutor of Trinity College, 1845-1855; Vicar of St. Andrew the Great, Cambridge; Vicar of Kendal, 1858-1896; Archdeacon of Westmorland, 1865; Canon of Carlisle, 1883. Died July 25th, 1896. (*Salopian*.)

<sup>2</sup> *William Henry Bateson*, son of Richard Bateson, Esq., of Liverpool, merchant. At Shrewsbury School, 1825-1831; B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge (third Classic), 1836; fellow, 1837; second master of Leicester Grammar School, 1837-1840; returned to Cambridge in 1840; was for a time Vicar of Horningsea and afterwards Vicar of Madingley; Examiner for Classical Tripos in 1842 and 1843; Public Orator, 1848-1857; Master of St. John's College, 1857; Vice-Chancellor, 1858; member of the Governing Bodies of Shrewsbury, Rugby, and the Perse Grammar School, Cambridge. Died March 27th, 1881. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>3</sup> *James Hildyard*, eighth son of the Rev. William Hildyard, of Winestead-in-Holderness. Born 1809. At Shrewsbury, 1821-1829; head boy, October, 1828; Tancred Student in Divinity at Christ's College, Cambridge; Davies university scholar, 1831, and gained three Browne Medals the same year; B.A. (second Classic and Junior Chancellor's Medallist), 1833; M.A., 1836; B.D., 1846; fellow, lecturer, and tutor of his college; Examiner in the Classical Tripos, 1838, 1839, 1840, 1844; Senior Proctor, 1843; Rector of Ingoldsby, 1846; advocated revision of the Prayer Book, and printed many pamphlets on the subject. Died August 27th, 1887. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

Richard Shilleto,<sup>1</sup> and Francis France<sup>2</sup> are examples at Cambridge, and Robert Scott, G. H. S. Johnson, William Thomson, Edward Hartopp Cradock,<sup>3</sup> and Frederic Metcalfe<sup>4</sup> at Oxford.

But the Public School Commissioners might with equal truth have spoken of the educational influence exercised by Shrewsbury men in the Public and other Grammar Schools of England. Thomas Williamson Peile,<sup>5</sup> Head Master of

<sup>1</sup> *Richard Shilleto*, son of George Shilleto, Esq., of Ulleskelf, Tadcaster, Yorkshire. Born November 25th, 1809. Educated partly at Repton; at Shrewsbury, 1825-1828; head boy, February, 1827; B.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge (second Classic), 1832; M.A., 1835; Examiner in Classical Tripos, 1839 and 1840; fellow of St. Peter's College, 1867; he was for some years a lecturer at Trinity, and lectured at King's up to the time of his death in 1876. His chief classical work was an edition of Demosthenes, *De falsa Legatione*, published in 1844.

<sup>2</sup> *Francis France*, son of Mr. Francis France, of Nobold, Shrewsbury. Born 1816. At Shrewsbury School, 1832-1836; head boy, August, 1836; graduated B.A. as Senior Classic *Æqualis* at St. John's College, Cambridge in 1840; fellow, lecturer, and President of his college; Archdeacon of Ely; Examiner in Classical Tripos, 1847, 1848, 1852, and 1853. Died suddenly at Cambridge, 1864.

<sup>3</sup> *Edward Hartopp Cradock*, son of Edward Grove, Esq., of Shenstone Park, near Lichfield. Born 1810. At Shrewsbury School, 1823-1827; scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, 1827; B.A. (Brasenose), 1831; M.A., 1834; B.D. and D.D., 1854; assumed the name of Cradock by royal licence in 1849; Rector of Tedstone Delamere, 1844-1854; Canon of Worcester, 1848-1854; Principal of Brasenose, 1853-86. Died January 27th, 1886, aged seventy-five. (FOSTER.)

<sup>4</sup> *Frederic Metcalfe*, fifth son of Moorhouse Metcalfe, Esq., of Gainsborough. At Shrewsbury, 1829-1834; B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge (2nd class Classical Tripos), 1838; fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, November 28th, 1844; ordained, 1845; Head Master of lower school at Brighton College, 1847-1849; Bursar of Lincoln College, 1849; Incumbent of St. Michael's, Oxford, 1849-1885; Sub-Rector of Lincoln, 1851; Lecturer in Greek, 1853; M.A., 1843; B.D., 1855. Accomplished Scandinavian scholar; author of *The Oxonian in Norway*, *The Oxonian in Iceland*, *History of German Literature*, and many other books. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>5</sup> *Thomas Williamson Peile*, son of John Peile, Esq., of Whitehaven. Born 1806. At Shrewsbury School, August, 1821, to July, 1824; head boy, August, 1823; matriculated at Trinity College, Cambridge, October, 1824; Davies university scholar, 1825; Members' Prize, 1827; second Classic and Junior Chancellor's Medallist, and eighteenth Wrangler, 1828; assistant master at Shrewsbury, 1828-1829; Head Master of Royal Collegiate Institution at Liverpool, 1829-1833; fellow and tutor of Durham, 1834; unsuccessful candidate for Harrow, 1836; Head Master of Repton, 1841-1854; ordained by the Bishop of Chester in 1829; perpetual curate of St. Catharine's, Liverpool, 1831; P.C. of Croxdale, near Durham, 1836; Vicar of Luton, Beds, 1857; Vicar of St.

Repton; Henry Holden,<sup>1</sup> Head Master of Uppingham, and subsequently of Durham; George Butterson,<sup>2</sup> Head Master of Uppingham; B. H. Kennedy, Head Master of Shrewsbury; F. E. Gretton,<sup>3</sup> Head Master of Stamford; Thomas Sheepshanks,<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Coventry; Thomas Rowley,<sup>5</sup> Head Master of Bridgnorth; R. W. Gleadowe,<sup>6</sup>

Paul's, Hampstead, 1860-1873. Died November 29th, 1882. B.A., 1828; M.A., 1831; D.D., 1843. Dr. Peile published editions of the *Agamemnon* and *Choephori* and *Annotations on the Apostolical Epistles*. (See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>1</sup> *Henry Holden*, second son of the Rev. Henry Augustus Holden, of Daventry. Born 1814. At Shrewsbury, 1826-1832; scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, 1832-1838; B.A. (1st class lit. hum.), 1837; M.A., 1839; B.D. and D.D., 1857; Head Master of Uppingham, 1845-1853; Head Master of Durham Cathedral School, 1853-1882; Hon. Canon of Durham, 1867; Rector of South Luffenham, 1881; co-editor of *Sabrinæ Corolla*.

<sup>2</sup> *George Ash Butterson*, son of John Butterson, Esq., of Market Drayton. Born 1804. At Shrewsbury, 1818-1823; graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1827 as eighth Wrangler and third Classic; M.A., 1830; B.D. 1838; D.D., 1843; fellow, 1827; Vice-Principal of Bristol College, 1831-1834; Head Master of the West Riding Proprietary School at Wakefield, 1834-1839; Head Master of Uppingham, 1839-1845; Head Master of Giggleswick, 1845-1858. Resided in Shropshire subsequently, and was for a good many years Rector of Cleobury North, and a J.P. for the county. Died August 3rd, 1891.

<sup>3</sup> *Frederic Edward Gretton*, son of the Rev. George Gretton, D.D., Dean of Hereford. Born 1803. After his father was made Dean in 1810 he went for a time to the Cathedral Grammar School, but was transferred in September, 1814, to Shrewsbury. B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, and 1st class in the Classical Tripos, 1826; fellow, 1829; M.A., 1829; in July, 1832, he was an assistant master at Oakham, and was a candidate for the head-mastership of Repton; Head Master of Stamford, 1833-1871. Died 1889.

<sup>4</sup> *Thomas Sheepshanks*, son of the Rev. Thomas Sheepshanks, Rector of Wimpole, Cambs. At Shrewsbury, 1812-1816; head boy, August, 1815; B.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge, 1820; M.A., 1823; assistant master of Shrewsbury, 1820-1825; Head Master of Falmouth Grammar School, 1825-1828; Head Master of Edinburgh Academy, 1828-1833; Head Master of Coventry Grammar School, 1833-1866. Died 1873.

<sup>5</sup> *Thomas Rowley*, son of the Rev. Richard Rowley, Rector of Middleton Scriven, near Bridgnorth. Born 1797. At Shrewsbury, 1810-1815; Careswell Exhibitioner at Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1819; M.A., 1822; B.D. and D.D., 1839; Head Master of Bridgnorth Grammar School, 1821-1851. During much of this time he was Rector of Middleton Scriven, where he succeeded his father. Rector of Willey, near Broseley, 1851. Died in church on Sunday, November 18th, 1877, at Willey.

<sup>6</sup> *Richard William Gleadowe*, son of the Rev. Thomas Gleadowe, Rector of Frodesley, Salop. Born 1812. At Shrewsbury School, 1827-1830; scholar of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; B.A., 1834; M.A., 1837; Head Master of Chester Grammar School; Vicar of Neston, Cheshire, 1853-1892; Hon. Canon of Chester, 1881. Died at Stevenage, April 3rd, 1897, aged eighty-five. (*Salopian*.)



Head Master of Chester; William Fletcher,<sup>1</sup> Head Master of Derby, and afterwards of Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne; and G. F. Harris,<sup>2</sup> second master of Harrow from 1836 to 1868, were all pupils of Dr. Butler.

Among the Shrewsbury men of Butler's time who did not go to Oxford or Cambridge the most prominent are General Sir Thomas Noel Hill, K.C.B., who fought in the Peninsular War, and was Assistant Adjutant-General during the Waterloo Campaign; General Sir Daniel Lysons,<sup>3</sup> G.C.B., Constable of the Tower; General Sir Robert Phayre,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *William Fletcher*, second son of William Fletcher, Esq., of Handsworth, Birmingham. Born 1810. At Shrewsbury School, 1826-1829; matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, in July, 1829; B.A. (1st class lit. hum.), 1833; fellow of Brasenose, 1833-1835; M.A., 1836; B.D., 1845; D.D., 1847; Head Master of Derby Grammar School, 1834-1843; Head Master of Southwell Grammar School, 1843-1859; Head Master of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wimborne, 1859-1872; Rector of Minterne Magna, 1872-1876; Vicar of Ulceby, Lincolnshire, 1876.

<sup>2</sup> *George Frederick Harris*, son of George Harris, Esq., of Liverpool. Born 1813. At Shrewsbury, 1827-1831; head boy, August, 1830; third Classic, 1835; fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; second master of Harrow, 1836-1868; J.P. for Middlesex. Died May 9th, 1869.

<sup>3</sup> *Sir Daniel Lysons*, son of the Rev. Daniel Lysons. Born at Rodmorton, Gloucestershire, on August 1st, 1816. At Shrewsbury School, 1829-1832. He did not appreciate his classical studies while at school, but was more successful with mathematics and geography. He was known as a skilful swimmer and diver, and on two occasions his courage and presence of mind enabled him to save a school-fellow's life. One of his contemporaries remembers young Lysons showing some military proclivities in his partiality for drilling small boys. After leaving Shrewsbury Lysons spent some time in France for linguistic purposes. In 1834 he was gazetted to an ensigncy in the 1st Royals; served during the Canadian Rebellion, 1838-1839, and was mentioned in despatches. From 1838 to 1841 he was D.A.Q.M.G. Took part in the Crimean War, and from October, 1855, commanded the 2nd Brigade of the Light Division (medal with three clasps and Legion of Honour). Several times mentioned in despatches. C.B. in 1856; D.Q.M.G. in Canada, 1862-1867; Q.M.G. to forces, 1874-1880; K.C.B., 1877; Colonel of the Sherwood Foresters (Derbyshire Regiment), 1878; General, 1879; in command of the Aldershot Division, 1880-1883; G.C.B., 1886; Constable of the Tower, 1890. Author of *The Crimean War from First to Last*, and *Early Reminiscences*. Died January 29th, 1898.

<sup>4</sup> *Sir Robert Phayre*, son of Robert Phayre, Esq., of Shrewsbury. Born 1820. At Shrewsbury School, 1829-1836. Passed most of his life in civil and military employment in India. In 1874 he became Political Resident in Baroda, and in that capacity he brought charges of maladministration against the Gaekwar, Mulhar Rao. A Commission of Inquiry found the charges proved, and the Gaekwar was ordered to introduce certain reforms within the term of seventeen



to make any grant for the purpose of doing away with the thoroughfare, but passed a resolution to reduce the salaries of the masters by 50 per cent. Up to this time Dr. Butler seems to have known little or nothing about the lawsuit. But, as soon as he learned how serious the matter had become, with his customary vigour he set to work to make himself master of all its details. His labours resulted in an able report, for which he received the warm thanks of the trustees on April 19th, 1824. They asked at the same time for his assistance in drawing up a memorial to the Court of Exchequer, praying for judgment in the case. The memorial was presented through the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, the Visitor of the school, and the case came on for hearing in June, 1824. Judgment was ultimately given in favour of the trustees on November 22nd, 1825, by the Lord Chief Baron, Sir William Alexander. The defendants appealed, but on December 15th, 1825, the Lord Chief Baron, after a three hours' argument, confirmed the previous decision of the Court.<sup>1</sup> The settlement of the Albrighton case and the closing of the thoroughfare through School Lane were two benefits to Shrewsbury School on which, at the close of his career, Dr. Butler justly prided himself.

The year 1829 is notable in the history of the school as the year of "The Beef Row,"<sup>2</sup> the second outbreak of insubordination with which Dr. Butler had to deal while he was Head Master. From time immemorial schoolboys have been accustomed to grumble about their food, and Shrewsbury boys were no exception to the rule. On this occasion their protests were directed against the boiled beef which, one day in the week, was the *pièce de résistance* at dinner. The chief cause of offence was its *redness*, which was probably due to the saltpetre with which the beef was cured. Having tried remonstrance in vain, the boys in each of Dr. Butler's halls, on a day fixed by concerted arrangement, quietly got up from table and left the room as soon as the boiled beef

<sup>1</sup> See *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 245, 246, 263, 264, 292.

<sup>2</sup> See COLLINS'S *Public Schools*; *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 353; and Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587.



THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS AD, 1833

FROM THE LIFE AND LETTERS OF DR. SAMUEL BUTLER



made its appearance. The offence does not seem one of a very serious character. But Dr. Butler was very angry; he regarded the conduct of the præpostors, who took the lead in the matter, as showing ingratitude towards him, as well as an attempt on their part at dictation. Consequently, after *locking up* that evening, he demanded a public apology from the præpostors under penalty of immediate dismissal. Among their number were James Hildyard, who was head boy at the time, Robert Scott, Thomas Brancker, Edward Warter, and W. H. Bateson.

The apology was refused, and all the præpostors were sent home next morning. The result was a general revolt, the rest of the boys refusing to go into school. But they gave in after a time on the persuasion of a popular resident in the town, who was himself an old Salopian. The præpostors, with one exception,<sup>1</sup> returned to school a few days later, home influence having been exerted to extract from them a sufficient profession of penitence to satisfy the Head Master's requirements.

In 1831 the Rectory of Langar in Nottinghamshire was offered to Dr. Butler by the Lord Chancellor, through Lord Palmerston, and accepted by him. But the validity of the presentation depended on the results of a suit for simony, which was not decided till 1834. A few months previously Dr. Butler had obtained the Lord Chancellor's consent to the transfer of the presentation to his son, the Rev. Thomas Butler, who eventually became Rector of Langar in 1834.<sup>2</sup>

In the year 1832 Shrewsbury School had the honour of a visit from the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria. It is probable that the idea of this visit came originally from

<sup>1</sup> This boy did not, like the other præpostors, send a proper apology by the earliest post. Dr. Butler also regarded him as principally concerned in setting the others against provisions of which, as he expressed it, he and his family partook six days out of seven, and accused him of using "horrible execrations" in speaking of these provisions. For once Dr. Butler seems to have lost both his temper and his sense of justice. The boy in question had been on a visit, and, returning only just in time for dinner, knew nothing of the plans which had been made until he entered the hall. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587.)

<sup>2</sup> See *Ibid.*, 34,588.



the Duke of Sussex, who for some years had corresponded not unfrequently with Dr. Butler, and had himself been to Shrewsbury not long before. The Duchess and the young Princess were staying at the time with Lord Liverpool at Pitchford Hall in Shropshire, one of the finest specimens of black and white half-timbered houses to be seen either in Shropshire or Cheshire.

Shortly after their arrival in Shropshire it was arranged that the projected visit should take place on Thursday, November 1st. Their Royal Highnesses reached the school soon after noon on the appointed day, and their arrival was signalled by the hoisting of the Royal Standard, hastily borrowed for the purpose from Liverpool, on the school tower, a salute of twenty-one guns from the river, and the ringing of St. Mary's bells. They were at once conducted by Dr. and Mrs. Butler to the upper school-room, where the boys were already assembled, and as soon as they had taken their seats an address was delivered by the head boy, W. G. Humphry, in the name of the masters and scholars. Subsequently the Duchess and her party inspected the library, the chapel, and the sixth form room, took luncheon at Dr. Butler's, and set off on their return to Pitchford about 2 p.m.<sup>1</sup>

Shortly after this time Dr. Butler became somewhat seriously ill, and never afterwards completely recovered his health. But it is probable that he would not have made up his mind to resign, so soon as he did, had not Mrs. Butler's health also given way. Sometime in the autumn of 1835 she had a severe paralytic seizure, and this attack practically made Dr. Butler's resignation inevitable. From the first Mrs. Butler had exercised a constant supervision of the domestic arrangements of the Head Master's houses, and of these during the last ten years there had been three, containing on the average nearly fifty boys apiece.

Her nephew, Mr. F. A. Paley,<sup>2</sup> describes her as "fat and

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. pp. 27-31.

<sup>2</sup> *Frederick Apthorp Paley*, son of the Rev. Edmund Paley, Rector of Easingwold, Yorkshire, and grandson of Archdeacon Paley. Born January 14th, 1815. At Shrewsbury School from 1826 to 1833; scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge. B.A., 1838; M.A., 1842; resided at Cambridge till 1846; an original

good-natured" and "very kind and clever," and adds that the school never would have prospered as it did without her. He tells us that she went round the houses every morning, accompanied by "John Bandy," the Doctor's butler, and sometimes by the medical man, to see if there were any boys ailing, to administer physic when necessary, and to give leave to go "out of school."<sup>1</sup>

Of the motherly interest which Mrs. Butler took in the boys her letters, as well as those of her daughters, are ample evidence, and however much Old Salopians may have differed when comparing their recollections of the discomfort of their bedrooms and the roughness of their life, they have always been at one in their affectionate gratitude for the many kindnesses she showed them in their school-days. Some few weeks before the time of which we have been speaking Mr. Jeudwine, who had been second master for twenty-nine years, died. The unfriendly relations, which, except between the years 1817 and 1830 when their intercourse seems to have taken a pleasanter turn,<sup>2</sup> had existed

member of the Cambridge Camden Society, and took much interest in the restoration of the Round Church; deprived of his rooms in college in consequence of a charge made against him of inducing a pupil to become a Roman Catholic. Mr. Paley himself joined the Roman Church shortly after. For the next few years he was chiefly engaged in private tuition in the families of Roman Catholic noblemen and gentlemen. In 1860 he returned again to Cambridge, and was actively engaged in private tuition there up to 1874. Examiner for Classical Tripos in 1873 and 1874; professor of Classical Literature in Roman Catholic University at Kensington, 1874; examiner in Classics to the University of London and the Civil Service Commissioners; wrote and published a considerable number of books and pamphlets on classical and architectural subjects. Died at Bournemouth, December 9th, 1888. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>1</sup> See *Dolman's Magazine*, vols. vi. and vii., "Adventures of a Schoolboy, by a Convert."

<sup>2</sup> This change of tone began in 1817. It was at the beginning of this year that Dr. Butler delegated to the second master the right of inflicting punishments throughout the lower school without reference to him. (Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,584.) Dr. Kennedy appears to have been under the impression that this right of punishment in the lower school was inherent in the office of second master. (See his evidence before the Public School Commission, vol. iv. p. 335.) But he was evidently mistaken in this matter. The practice, which, as we have seen, commenced in Mr. Jeudwine's time, was continued while Dr. Welldon was second master. But when Mr. Gifford succeeded to the post in 1843 Dr. Kennedy, at his request, undertook to administer all flogging throughout the school.

between the two masters since they were first brought into contact, must have been very detrimental to the interests of the school.

At a comparatively early period of Dr. Butler's head-mastership his own house was frequently full, while there were only three or four boys in Mr. Jeudwine's, and although Dr. Butler recommended parents to send their sons to the second master's house, they often preferred waiting till the Head Master should have room. Under these circumstances it was perhaps natural, though not altogether reasonable, that Mr. Jeudwine should feel himself aggrieved when Dr. Butler informed him in 1814 that he proposed to open a second boarding-house.<sup>1</sup> But this particular cause of trouble soon disappeared as the school numbers went on increasing, and there were boys enough to fill, not only Mr. Jeudwine's house, but a third house which Mr. Butler built in 1825, and another house also which Mr. Iliff, the senior assistant master, was allowed to open in School Lane early in 1826.

Another grievance, which arose out of the control exercised by the Head Master over all the promotions which from time to time took place from one form to another, was first definitely stated by Mr. Jeudwine in 1830. When the school was reorganized in 1798 it was arranged by the trustees that the second master should receive half the tuition fees paid by boys in the lower school, the rest of the fees throughout the school going to the Head Master, who, it must be remembered, had to provide for the stipends of all the assistant masters. Now it was Dr. Butler's practice to examine each form in the school twice a year, and to send subsequently to the form master a list of the names of those boys whom he considered fit for promotion. Mr. Jeudwine, doubtless in perfect sincerity, thought that boys in the lower part of the school were often promoted too rapidly, and wrote, on August 16th, 1830, to remonstrate with Dr. Butler on the matter. But, unfortunately, he went on to mention that, in consequence of the rapid promotions,

<sup>1</sup> See Add. MSS. British Museum, 34,583. Dr. Butler had at this time forty-eight boys in his house, while Mr. Jeudwine had only four.



although the school numbers had so largely increased, his stipend was no better, since all fees of the boys in the upper school went to the Head Master. This letter Dr. Butler resented keenly, as he considered it to imply that he was influenced in making these promotions by "sordid motives," and from this time till Mr. Jeudwine's fatal illness in 1835, all friendly intercourse between the two masters was at an end.<sup>1</sup> Happily they were reconciled while Mr. Jeudwine lay on his death-bed.<sup>2</sup>

There is no doubt that Dr. Butler's irritation at Mr. Jeudwine's letter was much intensified by the fact that, a few months before, Mr. Wynne, a brother-in-law of Mr. Jeudwine, had not only brought charges against him before the Town Council, based on the same grievances as those alleged by Mr. Jeudwine himself, but had threatened to produce a number of letters written by Dr. Butler, some years earlier, to Mr. Littlehales, an old and valued friend with whom he had been on terms of confidential intimacy, letters in which he seems to have discussed Shrewsbury affairs with some freedom.<sup>3</sup> From the account given in the Butler papers of an interview between Dr. Butler and Mr. Wynne, which took place on March 14th, 1830, in the presence of Mr. John Bather, it appears that one of Mr. Jeudwine's grievances was that some of the assistant masters had more advanced forms to teach than his own. About the same time that Mr. Wynne brought these school troubles before the Town Council he appears also to have filed a bill in Chancery against the trustees for alleged illegal employment of certain school funds in the increase of Dr. Butler's stipend.<sup>4</sup>

Mr. Jeudwine is described by the Rev. F. E. Gretton, who was at Shrewsbury School from 1814 to 1822,

<sup>1</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 41.

<sup>3</sup> See Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587. Mr. Richard Littlehales was elected a Shropshire fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1781. Dr. Butler seems to have been in complete ignorance as to the way in which these letters had come into Mr. Wynne's hands.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*



as "crusty and ungenial," and the boys are said to have placed nettles and brickbats on his desk, on May 29th, instead of the flowers with which they decked the Head Master's.<sup>1</sup> But Old Salopians are still living who speak of Mr. Jeudwine as possessing "amiable characteristics," and one of them roundly declares that the boys liked him better than they did Dr. Butler. The familiar *sobriquet* too of "Jackey Jeudwine," by which the second master was universally known, implies a liking on the part of the boys, though not necessarily of a very respectful kind. Certainly he was no disciplinarian. Stories are still told of his occasionally finding himself unable to rise from his chair in school without leaving his gown behind him, owing to a judicious application of cobbler's wax. Dr. Kennedy says that the boys could do what they liked with him, "they could almost pull his coat tails and call him Jackey to his face."<sup>2</sup> In 1827, in consequence of complaints made by Mr. Jeudwine as to the incivility and disrespect shown towards him by the boys at *calling over*, Dr. Butler suggested that his turns should be taken by one of the assistant masters, a suggestion which was gladly accepted.<sup>3</sup>

In the course of the same year Mr. Jeudwine also complained to Dr. Butler of insubordinate and disorderly conduct on the part of his own boarders, who were, he said, riotous in the bedrooms, disrespectful to Mrs. Jeudwine, and rude to the servants, and asked him to investigate the matter. The only grievance which the boys had, so far as Mr. Jeudwine knew, was that the "merit money" had been partly stopped for mischief.<sup>4</sup> The result of the Head Master's investigation was that the parents of one boy were asked to remove him at the end of the half-year, and others were written to on

<sup>1</sup> *Memory's Harkback*, by the Rev. F. E. GRETTON.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 40.

<sup>3</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,586. Dr. Butler inflicted some general punishment on the school in consequence of Mr. Jeudwine's complaint, a punishment which was subsequently remitted at his intercession, the præpostors having, in behalf of the school generally, made him a proper apology.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 34,586.

the subject of their sons' behaviour.<sup>1</sup> A memorandum by the Rev. Arthur Willis, one of the assistant masters, dated November 2nd, 1832, shows that insubordination and disorder were as prevalent in that year as they had been in 1827.<sup>2</sup> And speaking in December, 1835, of the number of boarders at Shrewsbury then and during the last few years, Dr. Butler does not hesitate to declare that Mr. Jeudwine had "lost all his boys for want of knowing how to govern them."<sup>3</sup> The master and seniors of St. John's College filled up the vacancy in the second-mastership by the appointment of the Rev. James Ind Welldon, B.A., who, after graduating as thirtieth Wrangler and fifth Classic in 1834,<sup>4</sup> had recently been elected one of their own fellows.

During his long career at Shrewsbury Dr. Butler was aided in his scholastic labours by a large number of assistant masters.<sup>5</sup> Some of his most distinguished pupils, such as Edward Baines, B. H. Kennedy, T. W. Peile, and T. F. Henney, went back to their old school for a time in this capacity before engaging in college work at Oxford or Cambridge, or accepting more important educational posts elsewhere. Thomas Sheepshanks, Richard Periam Thursfield, John Price, and John Mort Wakefield were also at Shrewsbury School as boys before returning there as masters. The first assistant master of whom we hear much

<sup>1</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587. Dr. Butler suggested to Mr. Jeudwine that his practice of sending orders to them by the servants, which turned out to be one of the boys' grievances, was the cause of the rudeness with which they were treated. He also mentioned that the older boys wished to be allowed to go to any assistant master whom they might prefer for *private lessons*.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 32.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 125.

<sup>4</sup> *Mr. Welldon* held the second-mastership till 1843, when he was appointed Head Master of Tonbridge Grammar School. In 1845 he was made D.C.L. of Oxford. On his retirement from Tonbridge in 1875 Dr. Welldon became Vicar of Kennington, near Ashford, in Kent, and was made an Honorary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral. He died on Christmas-day, 1896, aged eighty-five.

<sup>5</sup> After 1825 the annual income of an assistant master appears to have amounted to nearly £300. But only £80 of this was paid him by Dr. Butler out of the tuition fees. The rest of his income came from the payments made by boys for private tuition. Mathematics were almost entirely taught as private lessons.

is the Rev. Evan Griffith, who began work in January, 1810, and left Shrewsbury in 1820 to become Head Master of Swansea Grammar School. He was in holy orders when he came to Shrewsbury, and subsequently took the degree of B.D. in 1813 at St. John's College, Cambridge, as a "Ten Year Man." Mr. Griffith managed to combine a good deal of other work with his school duties. He was chaplain of the County Gaol for ten years, assisted Dr. Butler to perform the services at Berwick up to 1815, and succeeded him as chaplain of Berwick in that year. Mr. Gretton, who speaks of him as "Griffy," says that all the boys played tricks on him, but all loved and respected him, "he was so kindly and simple-hearted."<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Arthur Willis, of Trinity College, Cambridge, was an assistant master for seven years under Dr. Butler, and for two years under his successor. He began work in January, 1829, and seems to have been placed at once in charge of Mrs. Bromfield's hall.<sup>2</sup> He is described by Dr. Butler as "undeviating in his attention to the boys, both in and out of school," but as somewhat wanting in tact.<sup>3</sup> Old Salopians now living remember how, when they had carefully selected a field in which they might play football without much fear of interruption, Mr. Willis would occasionally ride up on his dark chestnut pony<sup>4</sup> and put a stop to the game. Now, much as Dr. Butler hated football, there is no doubt that he would regard interference of this sort by a master as showing want of tact. Mr. Willis is further described by his chief as a man "of high principle" and "an excellent preacher." He was an unsuccessful candidate for the head-mastership of Leicester Grammar School in 1836,<sup>5</sup> but two years later he was appointed to Ludlow.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See *Memory's Harkback*, by F. E. GRETTON.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Butler had now a third boarding-house, of which Mrs. Bromfield was matron.

<sup>3</sup> See *Life and Letters of Dr. Butler*, vol. ii. p. 137.

<sup>4</sup> Both master and pony were immortalised by a Shrewsbury boy of the period in the line, "Fuscus et in fusco conspiciendus equo."

<sup>5</sup> See Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34, 590.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Willis continued Head Master of Ludlow till 1850. During nearly all the time he was there he was at warfare with the Ludlow Town Council.



Perhaps the most notable of all Dr. Butler's assistants was the Rev. Frederick Iliff, who went to Shrewsbury early in 1823, immediately after taking his degree at Trinity College, Cambridge, and remained there till Christmas, 1833, when he migrated to the Liverpool Collegiate Institution of which he had just been appointed Principal. He is said to have been a sound scholar and able teacher, strong in Aristophanes, Thucydides, and Tacitus, and a great believer in Matthiæ's Greek Grammar.<sup>1</sup> For eight out of the ten years during which he was a Shrewsbury master Mr. Iliff had charge of the upper fifth, except for those lessons in which the higher division of that form shared the Head Master's teaching of the sixth. His class-room was in Bromfield's hall. "Although by no means Butler's equal in elegant scholarship, he was not inclined to give way to him on questions of grammatical criticism." Occasionally "in the course of a lesson some point would arise, upon which he was aware that he and his chief differed in their view, when he would conclude his own interpretation with the significant remark, 'You may perhaps be told differently lower down the lane, *but*——' and there he would stop with considerable emphasis."<sup>2</sup> So highly did Dr. Butler value Mr. Iliff's services that, early in 1825, he agreed to let him at a reasonable rate one of the houses he had recently purchased in Raven Street, where he was to be at liberty to receive ten boarders. At the same time he guaranteed him an income of £300 a year from stipend and pupils so long as he retained his mastership.<sup>3</sup> But the rapid increase of numbers

<sup>1</sup> See COLLINS'S *Public Schools*. Dr. Butler's son, while still at school, was much impressed by Mr. Iliff's knowledge of Aristophanes. (See letter from Thomas Butler to his father, dated November 22nd, 1828, in Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587.)

<sup>2</sup> This story is given by Mr. Collins, and is believed to rest on the authority of the Rev. James Hildyard. A somewhat similar story is told by an Old Salopian still living, who remembers Mr. Iliff saying during a Juvenal lesson, when one of the boys told him that Dr. Butler's rendering of a passage was different from his, "I have known two men in my life who could construe Juvenal; Madan was one and Dr. Butler was *not* the other."

<sup>3</sup> The draft agreement is dated February 13th, 1825. Dr. Butler, it is worth noting, expressly states in the agreement that he would not undertake to recommend parents to send their sons to Mr. Iliff's, while he had any vacancies, or Mr. Jeudwine had less than thirty boarders. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,593.)



in 1825 seems to have caused a modification of the original agreement, and by March, 1826, Mr. Iliff was occupying, not the house in Raven Street, but a much larger one in School Court, for which he paid Dr. Butler a rent of £200 a year, and where he was able to accommodate fifty boarders.<sup>1</sup> Writing to her brother at Cambridge on March 9th, 1826, Miss Butler refers to Mr. Iliff as recently married and as settled in his new house, which she describes as "very nice."

But towards the close of the year 1830, prosperous as his position at Shrewsbury was, Mr. Iliff, influenced no doubt by the unsatisfactory condition of Dr. Butler's health, as well as by the rumours which were afloat of his intended resignation, began to think of seeking a more secure educational position for himself elsewhere, although he does not appear to have formally offered himself as a candidate for another mastership until the Rev. T. W. Peile resigned the principalship of the Royal Collegiate Institution at Liverpool in August, 1833. Mr. Iliff was appointed to succeed him, and left Shrewsbury at the following Christmas. The uncertainty which Dr. Butler had felt during the last three years about his chief assistant's plans had been a cause of much worry to him. But the two masters had worked together for ten years with friendship and cordiality, and they would probably have parted on the best of terms had not, unfortunately, some rumours, probably exaggerated, as to Mr. Iliff's habit of "quizzing the doctor" reached the Head Master's ears some three or four weeks before the end of the half-year. Dr. Butler had a most forgiving disposition, but he thought that Mr. Iliff was in many ways indebted to him, and anything in the nature of ingratitude he found it very difficult to forgive.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Iliff was succeeded, both in his house and in his

<sup>1</sup> In a testimonial which Dr. Butler wrote for Mr. Iliff on September 28th, 1830, it is stated that the latter had fifty boarders in his house. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587.)

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 34,586.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 34,588. Mr. Iliff, or Dr. Iliff as he became in 1838, remained at the head of the Liverpool Collegiate Institution till 1845. He died in 1868.

schoolwork, by Mr. T. F. Henney,<sup>1</sup> an old Salopian, who had graduated in 1833 at Pembroke College, Oxford, when he gained a first class "*in Literis Humanioribus*," and a second class in mathematics.

Although Dr. Butler had intimated to the master and fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, towards the close of the year 1835, his intention of resigning the head-mastership, he did not actually vacate his office till Midsummer, 1836; but three months before this time he had the satisfaction of learning from the master that the college authorities had quite made up their minds to elect as his successor the Rev. B. H. Kennedy, the most distinguished of all his pupils, who had now been for six years an assistant master at Harrow. Dr. Butler had originally intended to reside, after his retirement, in a house which he had purchased at Shrewsbury, called "the Whitehall." But, early in April, it was intimated to him by Lord Melbourne that his name had been submitted to the King in connection with one of the existing vacancies on the bench of bishops, and that his Majesty had signified his approbation. It was not, however, till June that Dr. Butler was formally nominated as Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.<sup>2</sup> On July 3rd he was consecrated at Lambeth by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishops of Durham, Lincoln, and Bristol.

The impending retirement of the Head Master this year made the annual speech-day at Shrewsbury an occasion of special interest. Resolutions of gratitude for past services, and of congratulation on coming honours, which had been unanimously passed at a special meeting of the trustees, were read by the Recorder, and a copy of them, beautifully

<sup>1</sup> *Thomas Frederick Henney*, son of Thomas Henney, Esq., of Cheltenham. Born 1810. At Shrewsbury School from 1826 to 1829; assistant master, 1834-1838; fellow, tutor, and vice-regent of Pembroke College, Oxford, 1839-1860; Classical Examiner, 1846-1847; Classical Moderator, 1852; Prebendary of Lincoln and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln, 1855-1860. Died 1859. A scholarship bearing Mr. Henney's name was founded in his memory at Pembroke College.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. pp. 145, 147, 169.

written on vellum, was presented to Dr. Butler, enclosed in a silver box. The boys at the same time made him their parting gift, which consisted of a massive silver candelabrum.<sup>1</sup> A few months later, on October 6th, a testimonial, consisting of a service of silver plate, was presented to the new Bishop at Eccleshall Castle by a deputation of his old pupils at Shrewsbury. The presentation was made by Dr. Kennedy. The other members of the deputation were Edward Massie, Esq., P. H. S. Payne, Esq., C. J. Johnstone, Esq., M.B., the Rev. E. H. Grove, and Thomas Brancker, Esq.<sup>2</sup> Ample details of Dr. Butler's episcopate, which lasted little more than three years, are given in the interesting volumes entitled *Life and Letters of Dr. Samuel Butler*, which have been recently published by his grandson.<sup>3</sup> The same clearness of judgment, powers of organization, and judicial fairness of mind which had contributed so largely to his success as Head Master of Shrewsbury, were shown in his episcopal work, and his generous munificence is still remembered in his diocese. In spite of increasing illness and suffering Dr. Butler discharged all his varied duties of extensive correspondence, frequent attendance at public meetings, and laborious journeys to different parts of his diocese, with unflagging energy, almost to the end of his life. He died on December 3rd, 1839, and was buried at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. A monument to his memory, consisting of a life-sized statue representing the Bishop as seated in a chair, was erected by public subscription in the old "school chapel" of St. Mary's Church in 1843. The monument, which is not a very satisfactory piece of sculpture, was the work of Mr. E. H. Baily. A few years ago, when

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. pp. 153-158.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 185.

<sup>3</sup> To this work, and to the sixteen volumes of MSS. papers which Mr. Samuel Butler has deposited in the British Museum, the author is indebted for much that is to be found in this chapter; and after a diligent study of the large mass of material from which Mr. Butler has selected the letters and other documents which he has published, he is glad to testify how completely they bear out, in his opinion, the favourable estimate Mr. Butler has formed of the amiability, the self-control, the patience, and the fearlessness of his distinguished grandfather.



the "school chapel" was arranged for use in the daily services of the Church, it was moved into the tower.<sup>1</sup>

Of Dr. Butler's success in training scholars the marvellous array of university distinctions gained by his pupils between 1823 and 1840 is sufficient proof. Nothing like it had hitherto been known in the history of English public schools. Of the two university prizes adjudged to a Shrewsbury boy in 1823 before he had gone into residence at Cambridge mention has already been made.<sup>2</sup> But a still greater feat was accomplished in 1831 by another Salopian, who carried off the Ireland university scholarship at Oxford from all competitors while still a boy in the sixth form.<sup>3</sup> Between 1827 and 1833 "the Ireland" was gained by Shrewsbury men six years out of seven;<sup>4</sup> and in one year, 1830, not only did "the Pitt" at Cambridge and the Ireland and Craven at Oxford fall to their lot, but the name of a Senior Wrangler was inscribed on the honour boards.<sup>5</sup>

No wonder that newly-appointed Head Masters sought Dr. Butler's advice on questions of teaching and system, and

<sup>1</sup> See *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. pp. 351-363.

<sup>2</sup> The Porson Prize only was actually received by B. H. Kennedy. A grace had passed the Senate some little time previously restricting competition for Browne Medals to students in residence. It is stated in the article on Dr. Kennedy, in the *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, that the prize compositions were sent in at Dr. Butler's suggestion, but the latter has left it on record that he was unaware that Kennedy was competing.

<sup>3</sup> *Thomas Brancker*, of Wadham College. It appears from an interesting letter written from Christ Church on March 16th, 1831, by Mr. W. E. Gladstone to his tutor, Mr. Charles Wordsworth, that the examiners considered him and Robert Scott, of Balliol, to be of equal merit and to come next to Brancker. Mr. Short (afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph) had told him that Brancker owed his success to *taste*, and that both Scott's and his own answers were too long, while Brancker had answered all the questions briefly, and most of them rightly. The writer added that Scott did not consider Brancker to have been so good a scholar as himself when they were in the sixth form together at Shrewsbury. (*Temple Bar*, vol. 68.)

<sup>4</sup> The winners of the Ireland were George H. Johnson, Edward Massie, Charles Borrett, Peter S. Payne, Thomas Brancker, and Robert Scott.

<sup>5</sup> In 1830 the Pitt scholarship was adjudged to Charles Rann Kennedy, the Ireland to Peter S. Payne, and the Oxford Craven to Robert Scott. Charles Whitley, of St. John's College, Cambridge, was Senior Wrangler. It is but fair to add that Shrewsbury is hardly justified in claiming credit for Charles Kennedy's successes at Cambridge. He left Shrewsbury at Christmas, 1822, and was four years at Birmingham School before going to college.



even visited Shrewsbury in order to see his methods in active operation. On May 25th, 1829, the Rev. Henry Drury, under master of Harrow, wrote to Dr. Butler asking, on his own behalf, as well as on that of the Rev. C. T. Longley, D.D., who had just been appointed Head Master, for information on various matters, but especially with regard to his system of frequent examinations, which they wished "in some measure to adopt." This letter produced an immediate invitation from Dr. Butler. The two Harrow masters paid a visit to Shrewsbury and saw all they could of the working of the school.<sup>1</sup>

A few months later Mr. Drury wrote word to Dr. Butler that they had already "adopted many" of his "excellent institutions."<sup>2</sup> Among these institutions was the half-yearly examination, as we learn from a letter which Dr. Longley wrote to Dr. Butler on December 2nd, enclosing his first set of examination papers, expressing his gratification at the good results of the experiment, and declaring his conviction that these examinations might be made "an instrument of great benefit to Harrow."<sup>3</sup>

In 1834 again we find the Rev. C. E. Hawtrey, the new Head Master of Eton, applying to Dr. Butler for similar information about his system of examinations, especially with regard to their effect on boys' position in the school, and expressing his regret that the Provost of Eton would only allow of "one change" being made on which he could "engraft" Dr. Butler's "method." Mr. Hawtrey adds that "the Newcastle" and the practice of "sending up for good" were the only public stimulants to emulation in the fifth and sixth forms at Eton.<sup>4</sup> In a subsequent letter the Eton Head Master expressed his ardent desire to get regular half-yearly examinations established, and his admiration for the whole system pursued at Shrewsbury School.

It is interesting to find an Eton Head Master, more than

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 355.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 361.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 363.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 91.

sixty years ago, expressing doubts as to the advantage of sixth form boys having their lessons translated for them by their tutors before going into school.<sup>1</sup> It is quite clear from this correspondence that Dr. Butler regarded these examinations, upon which the boys' position in their various forms depended, as the *corner-stone* of his system. To use Dr. Kennedy's words, Dr. Butler established "an emulative system in which talent and industry always gained their just recognition and reward in good examinations."<sup>2</sup>

Accustomed as most of us have been all our lives to competitive examinations, it is not easy at first to realize the fact that in the early years of this century, although distinctions at the universities were gained by examination, it was not the practice at the public schools to make a boy's position in his form or his promotion to a higher form dependent on the results of a regular examination. No change, at any rate, in the relative position of boys in the sixth form, was ever made, so that when once a boy reached this position in the school he was no longer stimulated to exertion by the hope of success or the fear of failure. Another reason, in Dr. Kennedy's opinion, for Dr. Butler's success with his pupils at Shrewsbury, was his encouragement of *private reading*.<sup>3</sup> But perhaps he found his most effective means in the power he possessed of exciting enthusiasm among the elder boys for their classical work. One of his most distinguished scholars, the Rev. W. G. Humphry, declared that Dr. Butler made his pupils "believe that Latin and Greek were the only things worth living for."<sup>4</sup>

There was another part of Dr. Butler's system to which he attached great importance as a means of keeping himself *au fait* with the progress of individual boys in all parts of the school, and on which he laid much stress in his dealings with his assistant masters. He expected marks to be given to every boy, both for lessons and exercises, and to receive a

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 91.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 243.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 253.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 211.

list of these marks at the end of the month. This system of marking was retained by Dr. Butler's successors, and is still in use at Shrewsbury at the present day. In connection with these marks he also instituted a system of monthly merit-money,<sup>1</sup> which was continued by Dr. Kennedy, but which was not regarded with much favour by the Public School Commissioners, who described it as "a questionable kind of reward . . . peculiar to Shrewsbury."<sup>2</sup>

From an expression used by Dr. James in one of his letters, "Have no merit-money yet. Query if ever?"<sup>3</sup> it may be gathered that this form of reward was an original invention of Dr. Butler. As an additional reason for Dr. Butler's success his biographer suggests his habit of keeping in touch with university thought and feeling by frequent visits to Oxford and Cambridge.<sup>4</sup> But whatever may have been the comparative effect of these various contributory causes, there is no doubt, as was said in the *Quarterly Review* shortly after Dr. Butler's death, that by his "example in remodelling our public education" a stimulus was given "which is now acting on almost all the public schools in the country."<sup>5</sup> Dr. Monk, Bishop of Gloucester, when he heard in the autumn of 1835 of Dr. Butler's intended resignation, declared that there was nothing in scholastic history to compare with his career except that of Busby<sup>6</sup>

About the same time the Rev. Henry Drury, of Harrow, in still more definite language asserted his conviction that "the advance of learning among the young . . . at all English schools of note" had "taken its impulse" from Dr. Butler, and that Eton and Harrow would never have attained their "moderate excellence" had not he been "the agitator."<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i., Introd. pp. 6-8.

<sup>2</sup> See *Report of Public School Commission*, 1864. "Merit-money" is still in vogue at Shrewsbury, though it is not highly valued by the boys, and, indeed, furnishes them not unfrequently with material for the exercise of their sarcasm.

<sup>3</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,583.

<sup>4</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i., Introd. p. 9.

<sup>5</sup> *Quarterly Review*, September, 1842. The writer of the article is said by Professor Mayor to have been Robert Scott, of Balliol.

<sup>6</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 128.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 129.



Dr. Longley, also, who had just resigned Harrow on his appointment to the See of Ripon, while felicitating Dr. Butler on his approaching relief from the arduous duties of his "long and most honourable career," describes it as "distinguished by a degree of splendour and success unrivalled in the history of public schools."<sup>1</sup>

In spite, however, of the general admiration caused by the many triumphs gained by Dr. Butler's pupils at the universities, and the readiness shown by schoolmasters of high position to learn and adopt his methods, there were some men to be found at both universities who sneered at his system or ascribed his success to "cramming."

Dr. Wordsworth, the Master of Trinity College, is said to have compared Butler's occasional visits to Cambridge to those made by "a first-rate London milliner to Paris" in order "to get the fashions."<sup>2</sup> But some Oxford men went further than this, and, to Dr. Butler's great indignation, deliberately attributed the success of Shrewsbury boys in university examinations to special preparation, or in other words, to *cramming*.<sup>3</sup> This was at a time when the same school had just carried off the Ireland university scholarship five years running, "an unfair monopoly" as it was called by the detractors of Shrewsbury. It was actually suggested at Oxford that the nature of the examination for university scholarships should be changed by the introduction of "essay writing," and also of additional questions calculated to "elicit the powers and acquirements of more advanced age and progress."<sup>4</sup>

Some time before this Dr. Butler had been greatly annoyed when, in two consecutive years, three Shrewsbury boys failed to obtain a scholarship at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, one of whom gained a scholarship at Exeter College immediately afterwards, and another was subsequently second Classic at Cambridge. The Corpus scholarships, it must be

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii, p. 140.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i, Introd. p. 9.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii, p. 34.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii, p. 49.



borne in mind, were not open to general competition, the candidates for each being confined to one particular county. Dr. Butler thought at first of making a public attack on the mode of examination at Corpus, but he wisely abstained from doing so on the advice of an Oxford tutor, who, while sympathizing with him in the matter, and describing the result of the elections to scholarships at Corpus as "painful to dwell upon and hopeless thoroughly to explain," went on to attribute it partly to "a faulty but long-established mode of examination," and partly to "erroneous judgment." It appears that the only composition set in the Corpus examinations consisted of Latin verses and English essays. There was no Latin or Greek prose and no Greek verse.<sup>1</sup>

It is not surprising to find that, in the course of the thirty-eight years which Dr. Butler spent at Shrewsbury, during which he admitted no less than 1626 boys to the school, the impression left on the minds of his pupils by his personal characteristics was not always the same. Mr. Collins<sup>2</sup> says that some of them regarded their master as "overbearing and despotic," keeping "even the elder boys a good deal at a distance"; and Mr. F. A. Paley, in his *Adventures of a School-boy*, describes him as a "stern, pompous, hard-headed pedant, vain of his knowledge of Greek in which he did excel, as well as of many other things in which he did not," and attributes the moral influence which he gained over boys partly to his "firm authoritative manner," and partly to his practice of "bullying and brow-beating."<sup>3</sup> But it is quite evident that the six years which Mr. Paley spent at Shrewsbury were not happy years, and that he never liked Dr. Butler. It must be remembered also that when he wrote his *Reminiscences of School Life*, fifteen or twenty years after he had left Shrewsbury, Mr. Paley had become a Roman Catholic, and regarded all English public schools as "hot-beds of vice." On both accounts we are entitled to look upon his evidence as more or less *prejudiced*, especially when

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 376, 385-391; and vol. ii. p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> COLLINS's notes on "The Public Schools," originally published in *Blackwood*.

<sup>3</sup> *Dolman's Magazine*, vol. vi.

we contrast with it the high esteem and affectionate regard in which their old master was held by such men as Robert Wilson Evans and Robert Scott. Of the genial and cordial relations which existed, as a rule, between Dr. Butler and his older pupils, his correspondence with Thomas Smart Hughes, Marmaduke Lawson, Frederick Jackson, Edward Massie, Robert Scott, and Thomas Dalrymple is amply sufficient proof. It is impossible for anyone to study Dr. Butler's letters to parents and colleagues, often written under provocative circumstances, without being convinced that he was equable and forbearing in temper. Dr. Kennedy told his grandson that he never saw him in a passion.<sup>1</sup> Stories too have been handed down which testify to the readiness with which the great Head Master forgave offences of a comparatively trivial nature. Going into school one day the Doctor stopped to read some words scribbled on the wall which had caught his eye. The words were, "Butler is an old fool." But his only remark on reading them was, "The melancholy truth stares me in the face."<sup>2</sup>

On another occasion, Mr. Collins tell us, Dr. Butler came upon a small boy "out of bounds" in the town, who took refuge in a hogshead outside a grocer's shop directly he saw the Head Master. The latter walked straight up to the door, and, after tapping the cask all round with his cane, told the grocer that it was exactly the sort of cask he wanted, and that he would like it sent up to his house at once, just as it was. But the fright was the only punishment which the boy received. Dr. Butler is also said to have been lenient in cases where the pears and apples in his own garden had proved too great a temptation to the younger boys.<sup>3</sup> Certainly he drew a broad distinction between the *furta Laconica*, for which he might flog a boy while he was inwardly laughing, and thefts of a more serious kind, in an interesting letter which he wrote once to Dr. Parr. It appears that his two friends, Dr. Parr and

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i., Introd. p. 10.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i., Introd. p. 12.

<sup>3</sup> COLLINS'S *Public Schools*.

Dr. Maltby, had urgently pressed him to receive at Shrewsbury a boy who had been dismissed from another public school for stealing, and in his reply Dr. Butler, while reluctantly refusing to comply with the request of his friends, entered somewhat fully into the general subject. The pith of his letter is embodied in the neat epigram, "Pickle boys rob an orchard but scorn to steal a shilling."<sup>1</sup> Little has been said by Dr. Butler's pupils as to any influence exercised over them in religious matters by his instruction in school or chapel, or through direct personal intercourse with him. That some of the elder boys were well acquainted with their master's dislike of Calvinism is evident from an amusing letter written by Marmaduke Lawson soon after he went up to Cambridge. The passage is worth quoting as a specimen of Lawson's somewhat American humour. "I stayed Sunday at Leicester, where I heard the celebrated Robinson preach on . . . faith and works. . . . He said anyone who thought any works or any human performances could have the least effect towards his salvation was instigated by the devil. *Towards the close he manifested some strong Calvinistic symptoms.*"<sup>2</sup>

Long after these days, when Dr. Butler's biographer tried to get from Dr. Kennedy some account of his predecessor's religious views, all that he would say was, "He did not like an evangelical."<sup>3</sup> Shortly after Dr. Butler's death one of his most attached pupils, Robert Wilson Evans, wrote a touching letter to his old master's son, in which he spoke in grateful terms of the care which Dr. Butler had always taken, not only to inculcate critical accuracy and to inform his pupils with the body of ancient literature, but to infuse a lively

<sup>1</sup> See *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 187. It is possible that Dr. Butler did not take a sufficiently severe view of these *furta Laconica*. Hardly a year before he wrote this letter to Dr. Parr "knobbling" seems to have been a very common offence in the school. Mrs. Butler, writing to her husband on December 20th, 1820, says that one of the boys had told her that "knobbling had got so common" no boy could keep a book if he laid it down for a moment, and he and Tom Butler had each lost two hats in the course of the half-year. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,584.)

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 77.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 70.



spirit and delicate taste—as also of his constant readiness to counsel and befriend in after life those who had been under his charge at school. But Mr. Evans makes no allusion to any religious influence exercised over the minds of his Shrewsbury pupils by Dr. Butler.<sup>1</sup> Certainly the letter which the Head Master wrote to the school trustees in 1812, urging that he should be allowed to have service in chapel on Sundays instead of taking the boys to St. Mary's Church, seems to show that he was partly influenced in desiring to make the change by the belief that he would thus gain additional opportunities of giving them suitable religious instruction.<sup>2</sup> But the sermons which he preached at the afternoon service in chapel, after that service had received the sanction of the trustees, are described as frequently consisting mainly of a review of the chief offences of the past week, with stern lectures of the unconvicted offenders who had been stealing ducks, breaking the farmers' fences, or riding their horses bare-backed in an impromptu steeple-chase.<sup>3</sup> The practice of using the chapel as a school-room cannot have been calculated to make the boys feel much reverence, either for the building itself or for the services which were held there. We are told, indeed, that they spent their time, when waiting for the arrival of the masters before morning chapel, in playing cricket or leap-frog, and that they employed themselves during the service in learning their lessons.<sup>4</sup> Mr. Paley says that during the seven years he was at Shrewsbury he knew of no boy attending holy communion either in church or chapel, and his statement is practically confirmed by Dr. Kennedy's evidence before the Public School Commissioners. The story told about Bishop Blomfield's visit to Shrewsbury, and his remonstrance with Dr. Butler for sharpening his pencil while the service was still going on in chapel, must also be regarded as somewhat significant.<sup>5</sup> It is a noticeable fact that, in the

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii, p. 365.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i, p. 82.

<sup>3</sup> See COLLINS's *Public Schools*.

<sup>4</sup> See "Adventures of a Schoolboy" in *Dolman's Magazine*, vol. vi.

<sup>5</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i, p. 161.



letters of advice which he wrote to his old pupil when beginning work at Shrewsbury in 1798, Dr. James, although advocating Greek Testament lessons and the use of Watts's *Scripture History*, recommended that Sunday lessons, if given at all, should be "short and easy," and expressed his opinion that he would "soon find the comfort of a clear holiday on a Sunday."<sup>1</sup>

The Shrewsbury Head Master was probably influenced by this advice when he determined to give the boys a "long lie" on Sunday mornings, and confine the religious instruction on that day to an afternoon lesson. At this lesson it was the custom in 1818 to examine the sixth and fifth forms in Pretzman's *Theology* or Secker's *Lectures*, the fourth form in Watts's *Scripture History*, and the rest of the school in the Church Catechism.<sup>2</sup> Good man as Dr. Butler undoubtedly was,<sup>3</sup> he seems to have been somewhat of a pessimist as to the possibility of bringing direct religious influences to bear on boys in public schools. The intense dislike also which he shared with Dr. Samuel Parr, Dr. Maltby, the Rev. Henry Drury, and other intimate friends, of the religious system called "Evangelical," which was so widely prevalent early in this century, had probably some effect in making him shrink from anything that might induce people to regard him as its upholder.<sup>4</sup>

To one of the offences which Dr. Butler used to denounce in chapel, duck stealing, Shrewsbury boys seem to have been specially addicted. Allusions to it are common

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 25-37.

<sup>2</sup> CARLISLE'S *Endowed Grammar Schools*.

<sup>3</sup> No one can read Dr. Butler's *Life and Letters* without feeling convinced, not only of his faith in the revealed truths of Christianity, but also of his loving spirit, his unfailing sympathy, his intense regard for truth, his unostentatious generosity, his humble-mindedness, and his power of self-control. His own letters, as well as the testimony of his friends, bear witness to the patient endurance with which he submitted himself to the illness and sufferings of his later years.

<sup>4</sup> It is probable that Dr. Kennedy had his predecessor in mind when he ascribed the reluctance of schoolmasters before Arnold's time to attempt anything more than a very sparing use of religious influences, when dealing with their boys, to a conscientious "fear to profane holy things or to promote hypocrisy."—Evidence in Report of Public School Commission.

in the reminiscences of his old pupils, and sometimes it seems to have been carried on in most artistic fashion by means of a line with baited hook that the boys would throw over the farm-yard walls. An amusing story is told of the horror of a farmer's wife when she saw one of her ducks stagger helplessly across the farm-yard, dance airily up a perpendicular wall, and disappear on the opposite side.<sup>1</sup> One of the anecdotes told by Mr. Paley of his school-days includes an illegal boating expedition, a successful duck hunt, a ducking of another sort due to the tug-rope of a barge, and a subsequent flogging.<sup>2</sup> Another allusion to the practice is found in a letter written to Dr. Butler in 1823 by a former pupil who was living in Shrewsbury, and was a candidate for the curacy of St. Mary's Church. The writer, who was under the impression that in some way he had been disparaged by Dr. Butler, appeals to his old master to acknowledge that, although he had been a *duck stealer* when he was at school, he was not destitute of "some shreds and patches of honour."<sup>3</sup>

It seems strange in the present day that Dr. Butler, a man whose judgment in most matters was so sound, and who certainly had a good deal of sympathy with the high spirits and love of adventure common to boys, should not have encouraged the natural safety-valve which is provided for them by athletic amusements like cricket and football and boating. But football he denounced as "only fit for butcher boys," and in his early years at Shrewsbury it was absolutely prohibited. In Lord Cranbrook's time, 1827-1830, it appears to have been played by stealth,<sup>4</sup> and there are still living Salopians who remember the difficulty they had when they wanted to play football in finding a field where they were not likely to be interrupted. Against boating too, during the greater part of his career, Dr. Butler waged continual

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 308.

<sup>2</sup> "Adventures of a Schoolboy," *Dolman's Magazine*, vol. vi.

<sup>3</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 307.

<sup>4</sup> See his speech at the opening of the new school buildings on July 28th, 1882.

warfare; and the younger boys who ventured on the Severn often paid for their enjoyment with a flogging.<sup>1</sup> He even threatened Mr. Harwood, the boat proprietor, with divers pains and penalties if he allowed the boys to hire his boats, and got the Mayor of Shrewsbury to back him up in the matter. On one occasion, when he was denouncing to the boys the practice of boating, with the slight hesitancy which is said to have been habitual with him when pretending to be more angry than he really was, he declared that "if the men let the boys have boats" he would "have them up before the magistrates." Richard Shilleto, who was then at school, wrote on a slip of paper the following lines, which he placed quietly on the Doctor's desk:—

"Quando velint homines pueris conducere cymbas,  
Ante magistratus Butler habebit eos."

"Psha, boy, psha," was all the Doctor said, but he carefully folded the paper and put it in his pocket.<sup>2</sup> Almost to the end of Dr. Butler's head-mastership boating was carried on as a forbidden sport, and if a master was seen on the banks or towing-path when the boys were on the river they used to

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 235.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 235. A still better example of the delight Dr. Butler took in a humorous composition is furnished by a story which he himself told to a clergyman in the Archdeaconry of Derby. The sixth form had been reading the *Calydonian Boar Hunt*, and some of them, with their minds still full of the subject, got up a boar hunt on their own account after school on the same day with a sow and a litter of small pigs, chasing them about till they were half dead with fright and exhaustion. The farmer who owned them was naturally very angry, and said he would go off at once to complain to the Doctor. But one of the party managed to get back to the schools before the farmer arrived, and was ready to receive him, attired in the Doctor's cap and gown. Then, having gravely listened to the story and asked for the names or descriptions of some of the boys implicated, the sham Doctor assured the complainant that he would "flog the very life out of them." The farmer went away satisfied, and not long afterwards the boy who had personated the Head Master presented him with a copy of verses in which the whole story was related. Dr. Butler was so delighted with the composition that he gave the sixth an *extra*. If the Hon. Lewis Denman, who heard the story from the clergyman to whom Dr. Butler told it, be right in ascribing the verses to John Thomas, a future Craven scholar of Wadham College, Oxford, the Shilleto incident must belong to much the same time, as Thomas and Shilleto were school contemporaries.



*shirk* him by pulling their jackets over their heads.<sup>1</sup> The only objection which Dr. Butler seems to have had to boating arose out of his fears that the boys might be drowned; but unfortunately it never seems to have occurred to him to try the plan of simply prohibiting from boating all boys who could not swim, a prohibition which the præpostors would doubtless have been glad to enforce. Cricket was not forbidden, but does not seem to have met with any special encouragement. Two ball courts there were at the back of the second master's house where bat fives was played, an excellent game, which was also in vogue at the Charterhouse in old days, and probably elsewhere, but which is now a thing of the past. But the ball courts were chiefly noted as the place where the boys were accustomed to settle their disputes with their fists. In a letter to a parent, dated July 10th, 1820, Dr. Butler expresses his opinion that "the disputes of boys are best settled among themselves," and that "when two boys quarrel, though battles ought not to be encouraged, perhaps the most desirable thing is that they should settle it between themselves by a trial of mastery, which generally puts a stop to all further squabbles." He adds, however, that "no master can either say this or encourage it."<sup>2</sup> But somehow or other the boys seem to have understood the Head Master's real feelings on the subject, and were even under the impression that he sometimes witnessed their fights from one of his windows. At any rate, the proceedings met with no interruption till 9 a.m., when "John Bandy" used invariably to appear to dismiss the assembly.<sup>3</sup> This John Bandy, who was in Dr. Butler's service all the time he was at Shrewsbury, either as butler or porter, was a notable character among the boys. When carrying away the tin candlesticks at

<sup>1</sup> See report of speeches at the opening of the new school buildings in 1882. Lord Cranbrook, who left school in 1830, is the authority for this statement. But, as the Rev. Edgar Montagu, who was at Shrewsbury from 1830 to 1838, is confident that boating was allowed in his time, we may take it that soon after 1830 Dr. Butler ceased to use any active measures to prevent the practice.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 193.

<sup>3</sup> "Adventures of a Schoolboy," *Dolman's Magazine*, vol. vi.



night from their bedrooms he used to take special pride in stringing them all on the fingers of one hand.<sup>1</sup> It is said that there was a strong personal resemblance between the Head Master and John Bandy, and that the boys would frequently call out when the latter passed, "Like master, like man." Mr. Paley goes so far as to declare that when he was brought to school for the first time by his mother, who was a sister of Mrs. Butler, but had not seen her brother-in-law for twenty years, she mistook John Bandy for the Head Master, and gave him a sisterly salute.<sup>2</sup> Dr. Butler did not take his old servant with him when he went to Eccleshall, and, according to Mr. Gretton, John Bandy died of grief.<sup>3</sup>

The name of another domestic of Dr. Butler's has come down to posterity in connection with an amusing mistake she once made through a not inexcusable ignorance of Greek. This was Dinah, the matron in Doctor's hall, who lodged a formal complaint against the whole of the sixth form for coupling her name all the afternoon, both in their common room and in their studies, with very bad language, very bad indeed, though she did not understand the words. The Doctor, in great indignation, summoned the offenders to his study. But when he learned that the bad language was Greek, and that the subject of next day's repetition lesson was the Chorus of the *Œdipus Rex*, in which comes the line "ΔΕΙΝΑ μὲν οὖν, ΔΕΙΝΑ παράσσει σοφὸς οἰωνοθέτας," which the boys had been shouting out, and all the more vociferously when they understood Dinah's delusion, the joke was too much for him and he burst into a paroxysm of laughter.<sup>4</sup> Another school notability in those days was Mrs. Bromfield, who had been nurse to Dr. Butler's children, and was afterwards made matron of the boarding-house which he opened in 1826. She was known to the boys as "Brommy"

<sup>1</sup> *Memory's Harkback*, by the Rev. F. E. GRETTON.

<sup>2</sup> "Adventures of a Schoolboy," *Dolman's Magazine*, vol. vi.

<sup>3</sup> When the porter's lodge was set up at the top of School Lane in 1826 John Bandy appears to have been installed in it as porter. But he probably continued to act as the Head Master's butler as well until Dr. Butler left Shrewsbury.

<sup>4</sup> COLLINS'S *Public Schools*.

and has been immortalised by Dr. Butler's biographer as the coiner of one of the longest words known in the English language. Coming into the hall one night when the boys were very noisy, she singled out the chief offender and told him he was the "rampingest-scampingest-rackety-tackety-tow-row-roaringest boy in the house." Then pausing for a moment, she looked triumphantly round the hall and added, "Young gentlemen, prayers are excused."<sup>1</sup> A delightful letter from Miss Butler to her brother, when he was an undergraduate at Cambridge, says a good deal about "Brommy's" superstitions as to dreams, and also mentions her naïve expression of hope that a new master, who had not been at first very successful in disciplinary matters, would "soon be as great a beast" as herself.<sup>2</sup> In Dr. Butler's correspondence with his old pupils we find occasional allusions to "Speech Day" at Shrewsbury, and it is probable, from the various inquiries which he made on the subject from Dr. James in 1800, that this institution dates from the early days of his head-mastership. The fixed time for the annual festival appears to have been shortly before the summer holidays. Dr. Butler is said to have taken much trouble with the speeches, training the selected boys for some time before the appointed day. Dr. Samuel Parr was present on more than one Speech Day, sitting in the place of honour next to the Head Master, with his pipe in his mouth and his spittoon before him, and occasionally signifying his approval by quietly tapping two fingers of one hand on the palm of the other, an amount of applause which Dr. Butler took care to assure the boys meant a great deal from so great a man. Of the proceedings on one of these Speech Days, the last indeed at which Dr. Butler presided, a detailed account has been preserved, which shows that the chief incidents of

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 300.

<sup>2</sup> See Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,586. The date of the letter, which is in fact a sort of postscript to one from her father, is March 9th, 1826. It is further interesting as indicating the climax of prosperity attained by Shrewsbury in Dr. Butler's time. He had already three boarding-houses of his own, and Miss Butler had just been to see the new boarding-house which Mr. Iliff had recently opened.

Speech Day were then as now, the delivery of the speeches, the distribution of prizes, and a luncheon to conclude.<sup>1</sup> A far more popular school festival than this was the play which appears to have been performed annually at Christmas time in the later years of Dr. Butler's head-mastership. The performance took place in the upper school-room, which was fitted up for the occasion as a theatre, scenes, wings, and other properties being lent by the manager of the Shrewsbury Theatre. The usual programme consisted of a play of Shakespeare and a farce. The guests included the trustees and as many of the gentlemen of Shrewsbury and the neighbourhood as could be accommodated in the room. The performance was generally concluded by an epilogue, written by one of the masters, and spoken by one of the actors. On one occasion Garrick's farce of *The Lying Valet* had just been given, and the boy who had played the part of "Kitty Pry" came on the stage again to deliver the epilogue. It had been arranged, without Dr. Butler's knowledge, that one of the audience was to take a small part in the introduction of the epilogue, and accordingly, immediately on "Kitty's" entrance, a boy, who was seated close behind the Doctor, rose and saluted her with the words—

"What ! Kitty Pry again upon her legs !"

Scandalised at what he thought to be an audacious interruption, the Head Master turned round in boiling wrath upon the speaker, and was hardly appeased when "Kitty," not in the least disconcerted, replied in her pertest tone, "None of your himperance, young man, I begs," though no one laughed more heartily than the Doctor when he perceived his mistake.<sup>2</sup>

A curious school ceremony, which originated at Shrewsbury in Dr. Butler's time and has continued to exist down to the present day, was known as "Hall Election." At the beginning of each half-year certain officers of the Halls were elected by universal suffrage. Among them were "the Lord

<sup>1</sup> See COLLINS'S *Public Schools*.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* There are still Salopians living who remember this performance, which took place at Christmas, 1826.



High Constable," who was charged in some undefined way with the general maintenance of order; a "Hall Constable";<sup>1</sup> and two "Hall Criers" whose chief business was to read out at meal times the names of "douls"<sup>2</sup> on duty for cricket, football, or the service of "Head-room," descriptions of lost articles, and various other notices. Each proclamation began in due form with "O yes! O yes!" and ended with "God save the King," coupled with a somewhat strong expression of feeling with regard to "the Radicals," which the staunchest Salopian Conservatives may be excused for hoping is no longer to be heard in Shrewsbury Halls. The excitement at these elections is said to have been very great, strenuous exertions which often resulted in a general scrimmage being necessary in order to bring up supporters to the poll and to keep back opponents. The main object of the rival parties was naturally to secure the least burdensome offices for their own friends.<sup>3</sup> The successful candidates had afterwards to mount on a table and return thanks amidst a shower of books and crusts and anything else that came to hand, and were finally inaugurated by being tossed in a blanket. The pelting and blanket tossing came to an end in Dr. Kennedy's time, a half-holiday being given on the express condition that these disagreeable accessories of the Election should be given up.<sup>4</sup>

Few of Dr. Butler's pupils are now living, but many of them have written or spoken of their school-days, and all seem to agree that their life at Shrewsbury was rough—"almost Spartan" Bishop Fraser called it, "in the fewness

<sup>1</sup> The Lord High Constable, whose duties were purely honorary, was always a præpostor. The Hall Constable had to preside at "boxing and singing," and had the general management of Hall affairs.

<sup>2</sup> *Douls* and *douling* for *fags* and *fagging* are expressions peculiar to Shrewsbury School. The name *Skytes* (Σκυθαί), by which day boys are called, is another piece of Shrewsbury Greek slang. The latter term must be of comparatively modern origin. Mr. Paley (1826-1833) says that day boys were called *Snobs* in his time.

<sup>3</sup> The office most sought after was probably that of *postman*. Two postmen were elected, whose duty it was in alternate weeks to collect the letters in "Top Schools" at 8.30 p.m. The discharge of this duty gave the postman a grand opportunity for a series of social amenities towards friends seated in various parts of "Top Schools." The office least in request was that of Hall scavenger.

<sup>4</sup> See COLLINS'S *Public Schools*.



of its comforts and the hardness of its discipline.”<sup>1</sup> A single bed, though in the latter part of Dr. Butler’s time most boys seem to have had it,<sup>2</sup> was charged for as “an extra.” Thick dry toast and a basin of skim milk were provided for breakfast, and supper consisted of bread and cheese with milk and water or small beer. At both meals, however, boys were allowed to procure, at their own or their parents’ expense, tea, coffee, butter, cakes, etc., and those who could not indulge in these luxuries used to toast their cheese and mull their beer with the aid of spices and sugar.<sup>3</sup> Dinner seems to have been fairly good, although, as we have seen, the boys were sometimes so dissatisfied with the quantity or the quality of the food provided for them as to break out into open rebellion. It must be borne in mind that boys have always from time immemorial found something to grumble about in their food, and there is no reason to suppose that Shrewsbury boys had more cause for grumbling than other schoolboys of their generation. Though delighted to keep up the traditional joke that the letters S.B. over the stone gate in front of the Head Master’s house were a sort of public-house sign of “Stale bread, sour beer, salt butter, and stinking beef, sold by Samuel Butler,” modern listeners cannot but feel that the mouths of their Old Salopian brethren are watering when they recall the memory of the roast goose on Michaelmas-day, the unlimited pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, and the pork pies, of which every boarder had one given him shortly before Christmas, but which had often been bought up long before that time by boys who had not been too extravagant with their pocket money.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In his sermon preached in St. Mary’s at the opening of the new school buildings on Kingsland.

<sup>2</sup> It is so stated by Mr. Collins. But Mr. F. A. Paley, who was at school from 1826 to 1833, only leaving three years before Dr. Butler’s resignation, describes his bedroom when he first went to school as sixteen feet square, with one window and five double beds. Nor does he speak of any improvement being made in this respect during his time.

<sup>3</sup> “Adventures of a Schoolboy,” *Dolman’s Magazine*, vol. vi.

<sup>4</sup> See a letter from the Rev. Edgar Montagu to Mr. Samuel Butler, printed in the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* in January, 1897.

Rough as the Shrewsbury life was—rougher, perhaps, than that of collegers at Eton or Winchester in the early part of this century—there is no doubt that many old Salopians of Butler's time looked back with feelings of pleasure to their school-days.

Frederick Jackson, who left school in 1814, refers a few months afterwards to his old haunts as "scenes of happiness."<sup>1</sup> The Rev. F. E. Gretton, who had a long experience of Shrewsbury, having remained there from 1814 to 1822, although freely allowing, when he let his mind dwell upon his school life after an interval of more than forty years, that it was by no means "a rosewater life," that he got more raps on the knuckles and kicks on the shins than he liked, and that he might have run away if he had known the road home, or drowned himself in the Severn if the water had not been so cold, boldly asserted that on the whole his school time had been "the oasis" of his past life.<sup>2</sup>

Bullying seems to have prevailed to a considerable extent at Shrewsbury, taking varying forms in accordance with the varying occurrences of the passing hour. When Russian *knouting* was the topic of the day small boys had to strip in the wash-room and be *knouted*. When the Assize time came round the little fellows went in fear and trembling lest they should be hung in imitation. Blankets were always available for tossing, and occasionally, when a sufficient supply of the Doctor's disused birch twigs could be collected, the *long-lie* on Sunday mornings was utilised by the bigger boys in making a humble imitation of the Doctor's flogging operations, the *douls* having to kneel at their bedsides and be birched.<sup>3</sup>

Dr. Butler meddled, we may be sure, as little in the matter of *bullying* as he did in the matter of *fighting*. He trusted to the interference of the præpostors when the small boys had more bullying than was good for them. This was part

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 106.

<sup>2</sup> *Memory's Harkback*, 1808-1858, by the Rev. F. E. GRETTON.

<sup>3</sup> See Mr. Montagu's letter referred to above.

of the *monitorial system*, the establishment of which in English public schools was practically his work. Schoolboys, in his view, should be governed as much as possible by their *peers*. To anyone inquiring about such matters of Old Salopians the almost invariable answer has ever been, "We were left pretty much to ourselves."<sup>1</sup> But if ever cases of bullying came formally before him Dr. Butler was severe enough on the bullies. He was very angry, for example, when he found that some of the bigger boys had caused *douls* to excavate a hole in the hillside of the ball court, the diameter of which increased slowly with the depth until two or three little boys could be enclosed. The bullies would then seal up the aperture by sitting upon it, and so turn the excavation into a "black hole of Calcutta."<sup>2</sup> Boys ran away now and then, but the number of these runaways does not seem exceptionally large.<sup>3</sup> Public school life is, generally speaking, an example in a small way of the principle of "the survival of the fittest," and sensitive, nervous, and timid boys often have a bad time of it. But Shrewsbury men, trained under Dr. Butler, seem to have possessed, as a rule, characteristics which were probably due in great measure to the influences and traditions of their school life, rough and Spartan-like as it may have been—independence of thought, freedom from party feeling, and *self-reliance* as distinguished from *self-confidence*.

An Old Salopian, still living, has cited, not unaptly, "Jimmy Fraser, Bishop of Manchester, carrying his own bag," and "Charles Darwin pressing his own views, but always, to the last, with the healthy feeling that he might

<sup>1</sup> It is evident that Dr. Butler did not approve of his house masters interfering much with the boys out of school hours. The Rev. Arthur Willis, who was for some years house master in Bromfield's hall, and who is described by Dr. Butler as "a disciplinarian," and "undeviating" in his "attention to the boys, both in and out of school" (*Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 137), is declared by an Old Salopian still living, who was for some years in that hall, to have left the boys, during the winter, from 4.30 p.m., when they were locked in, till 9 p.m., when they went to bed, entirely to themselves.

<sup>2</sup> See Mr. Montagu's letter before quoted.

<sup>3</sup> The number of runaways can be easily reckoned up from Dr. Butler's register of admissions.



be wrong," as examples of some of these characteristics.<sup>1</sup> It is interesting to know that Dr. Butler, although during the last ten years of his head-mastership he had three boarding-houses of his own, each capable of accommodating about fifty boys, realized that this monopolizing system was not calculated to further the ultimate interests of the school, and privately expressed his opinion to the master of St. John's College that it would be better for his successor to leave two of the three houses in the hands of assistant masters.<sup>2</sup>

A few words may be said as to the arrangements made for teaching the different forms at the time when the school was at its fullest. Throughout his career Dr. Butler appears to have taken the sixth form, and, for some of his lessons, the upper fifth also, in the room on the ground floor where the honour boards were originally placed. In the big room on the second floor, known in later days as "Top Schools," three separate forms were taught.<sup>3</sup> The second and third forms were taken by Mr. Jeudwine, at the end of the room furthest from the tower staircase; then, in the middle, came the Rev. John Young with the upper fourth form; thirdly, at the other end, the Rev. J. M. Wakefield taught the upper division of the lower fifth. The lower division of the same form was taken by the Rev. Thomas Butler in a room in a house adjoining the inner ball court, and Piff's<sup>4</sup> room was immediately below this. Mr. Iliff's school-room was, as has been previously mentioned, in Bromfield's hall. The only school-room on the first floor was occupied by Mr. Willis, with the lower fourth.

Dr. Butler seems, as a general rule, to have administered his floggings in his own school-room, though his study was occasionally the scene of the operation.<sup>5</sup> The block was

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. Montagu's letter before quoted.

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol ii. p. 127.

<sup>3</sup> "Top Schools" was originally divided into three rooms by partitions, adorned with carved work, in which were folding doors. But these partitions had been removed before the days of which we are speaking. (CARLISLE'S *Grammar Schools*.)

<sup>4</sup> Mr. J. Smith, universally known as "Piff," was the writing master.

<sup>5</sup> See "Adventures of a Schoolboy," *Dolman's Magazine*, vol. vii.



kept in a small closet in the former room, known as "the Black Hole," where boys were sometimes locked up for an hour or two as a punishment. But the "Black Hole" was, after a time, pulled down, and then another closet in Top Schools took its place as an occasional prison, and was known among the boys by the same name.<sup>1</sup> It stood in the south-east corner of the long room, and was about 4 feet square by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height. The material of which it was composed was oak panelling, which probably formed part of one of the partitions, adorned with carved work, which originally divided Top Schools into three rooms. The top of the closet was surmounted externally by a bold cornice. Internally it was covered in by flat iron rods about half an inch broad, and a quarter of an inch apart.<sup>2</sup>

It is said that while this prison was in use boys were sometimes forgotten, and that on one occasion two boys would have remained there all night had not one of them made his escape by breaking the lock and letting himself down by a water-pipe into the court below.<sup>3</sup> It is evident that there was, during most of Dr. Butler's time, another closet also, at the tower end of Top Schools, in which Mr. Jeudwine used when necessary to administer corporal punishment to the boys of the lower school. But this closet was done away with when the tower was undergoing repairs, and in a letter which Mr. Jeudwine wrote in September, 1835, he somewhat plaintively explained that he was no longer able "to use the rod," since Mr. Rowland had neglected to restore the cupboard when the repairs of the tower were completed.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See COLLINS's *Public Schools*.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Calvert thinks that this lock-up cupboard may have been made from a kind of gallery which, according to tradition, used to fill up the greater part of the south end of the room. He believes also that it was altogether removed at the time of the visit of the Archæological Institute to Shrewsbury in 1855, when the room was converted during the summer holidays into a temporary museum.

<sup>3</sup> See COLLINS's *Public Schools*.

<sup>4</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,589.





DR. KENNEDY  
HEAD MASTER 1836-1866

## CHAPTER XVI.

Benjamin Hall Kennedy, D.D., 1836-1866.

THE new Head Master, Dr. Benjamin Hall Kennedy, was the eldest son of the Rev. Rann Kennedy, second master of King Edward's School, Birmingham, and Incumbent of St. Paul's Church in the same town. He was born on November 6th, 1804, at Summer Hill, near Birmingham. Mr. Rann Kennedy is described as a man of earnest and enthusiastic disposition and of high literary attainments, who possessed, among other acquirements, a remarkable knowledge of English poetry.<sup>1</sup> Up to the time he was fourteen years old young Kennedy was educated in his father's house or at Birmingham School, but in February, 1819, he was sent to Shrewsbury.

Even at this early age the boy seems to have been imbued with a real love of learning and that passionate admiration of poetry which distinguished him through life. Under the influence of Dr. Butler's teaching, Kennedy's powers rapidly developed. In less than two years, and before he attained the age of sixteen, he was head boy of the sixth form.<sup>2</sup> In

<sup>1</sup> See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.* (RANN KENNEDY). In conjunction with his second son, Charles Rann Kennedy, he translated the poems of Virgil into blank verse in 1849. The book was dedicated to Prince Albert. The translation is literal and good. Most of the *Æneid* was translated by the son. Mr. Rann Kennedy had four sons, of whom three were Senior Classics, and the fourth, who was himself a university prizeman, was father of a Senior Classic, the present Mr. Justice Kennedy.

<sup>2</sup> It is stated in the *Life and Letters of Dr. Samuel Butler*, vol. i. p. 40, that B. H. Kennedy was between four and five years a boarder in Mr. Jeudwine's house. This must be a mistake. There is absolute proof in the Butler papers (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,585) that Kennedy was a præpostor in Dr. Butler's house in October, 1821, two years before he left school, and no living member of Dr. Kennedy's family can remember to have ever heard him speak of having boarded in Mr. Jeudwine's house at all.



October, 1823, he went into residence at St. John's College, Cambridge, having left school at the preceding midsummer. By this time, independently of the work done under Dr. Butler's superintendence, Kennedy had got through an immense amount of "private reading," which included "all Thucydides, all Tacitus, all Sophocles and Æschylus, much Aristophanes, Pindar, Herodotus, Demosthenes, and Plato, besides Cicero."<sup>1</sup> "Private reading" was a practice which Dr. Butler was continually recommending to the Shrewsbury boys, and his brilliant young pupil had so thoroughly taken this recommendation to heart that he was anxious at first to leave school six months earlier than he did so as to have more time to devote to it.<sup>2</sup>

Of Kennedy's remarkable successes at Cambridge mention has already been made. But his university life, happily for himself, was by no means that of a mere bookworm. Soon after he went up to college he became a member of a society known as "the Apostles." With some of this apostolic band, and notably with John Sterling and Frederic Denison Maurice, he formed an intimate friendship. Other friends of Kennedy, in what Lord Lytton calls "that brilliant undergraduate world," were Bulwer Lytton, William Mackworth Praed, Alexander Cockburn, Christopher Wordsworth, Charles Buller, and William Selwyn. Bulwer Lytton describes him in his undergraduate days as "an ardent, enthusiastic youth from Shrewsbury, a young giant in learning."<sup>3</sup>

Writing to Dr. Butler in the course of his first term, Kennedy tells him that he has become acquainted with Praed and Townshend and Ord, the leading spirits of the Union Debating Society, and has been repeatedly invited to join it, but that owing to his kind advice he has resisted the temptation.<sup>4</sup> It is probable that the writer had somewhat misunderstood Dr. Butler's meaning, and that his sage and kindly master lost no time in correcting the misunderstanding,

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 253.

<sup>2</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,585.

<sup>3</sup> *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, B. H. KENNEDY.

<sup>4</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 259.

for not long afterwards Kennedy began to take an active part in the Union debates, and in 1825 he was elected President of the Society. To the practice in speaking, which his connection with the Union gave him, he owed, doubtless, much of the ready utterance, the well-balanced sentences, and the skilful modulation of voice which made him such a brilliant and effective speaker in after years.<sup>1</sup>

At first when Kennedy had taken his degree he thought of reading for the Bar. But his fellowship at St. John's did not come so soon as he had hoped, and in the course of 1827 he made up his mind to accept an assistant mastership at Shrewsbury for a year, partly with the view of occupying his time usefully until he obtained his fellowship, and partly in order to oblige Dr. Butler by temporarily filling a place which the Head Master desired to keep open till his son, "Tom Butler," had taken his degree.<sup>2</sup> The proposed arrangement was carried out, though for a time it seemed likely that Kennedy's candidature for the head-mastership of Rugby, which became vacant in September, 1827, by the resignation of Dr. Wooll, might render it impossible.<sup>3</sup>

Dr. Arnold, however, was chosen for Rugby, and Mr. Kennedy was able to go to Shrewsbury about October 14th and to remain there for a year, as he had originally proposed. In March, 1828, he was elected fellow of St. John's College, and in the following October he went into residence at Cambridge, where he remained two years, acting as a classical lecturer in his college, and reading with private pupils. Among his pupils at this time were William Cavendish, afterwards Duke of Devonshire and Chancellor of the University, Charles Merivale, afterwards Dean of Ely,

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. E. M. Cope thought Dr. Kennedy to be the best speaker he had ever heard. (See *Classical Review* for May, 1889.)

<sup>2</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. p. 330. Mr. Kennedy was spending the long vacation at Paignton, in Devonshire, when he arranged with Dr. Butler that he would go to Shrewsbury as a master for a year. He and Mr. William Hopkins, the celebrated mathematical tutor and geologist, had a joint reading party at Paignton. One of their pupils was Henry Philpott, afterwards Bishop of Worcester.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 331.

and Richard Shilleto. In 1829 Mr. Kennedy was ordained deacon, and in the following year priest. In March, 1830, he acted as an examiner at Harrow School, and it was probably at this time that he accepted Dr. Longley's offer of an assistant mastership, together with the charge of the Grove House, one of the best boarding-houses connected with the school. At any rate, we find him early in June at work at Harrow and comfortably settled in the Grove House.<sup>1</sup> Here Mr. Kennedy remained for six years, during which time he is said to have "exercised a remarkable intellectual influence" in the school.<sup>2</sup> There seems no doubt indeed that he might have succeeded Dr. Longley as Head Master of Harrow in 1836 had he not preferred on the whole to return in a similar capacity to his own old school at Shrewsbury. From the pecuniary point of view it would have been better for him to stay where he was, even putting aside the prospect of succeeding Dr. Longley. His house at Harrow, which had been almost entirely destroyed by fire while he was in occupation, had been satisfactorily rebuilt, and was now a more comfortable house and better adapted for its purpose than that which belonged to the Head Master at Shrewsbury; his income too was morally certain, for a long time, at any rate, to be diminished by the change. But Mr. Kennedy had a warm affection for Shrewsbury, and was a staunch upholder of the general excellence of the Butlerian system.<sup>3</sup> He seems also to have had a rooted objection to any legalised system of fagging, and he thought that the boys' devotion to cricket and football at Harrow was rather carried to excess.<sup>4</sup> So, after a good deal of correspondence with Dr. Butler, who was keenly anxious that he should be his successor, Mr. Kennedy made up his mind to become a candidate for Shrewsbury. Before the middle of March,

<sup>1</sup> See an interesting letter from the Rev. Henry Drury to Dr. Butler, in which he expresses an ardent hope that the new assistant master would not get under the influence of a certain religious clique at Harrow, of which they both entertained an equally strong dislike. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,587.)

<sup>2</sup> THORNTON'S *History of Harrow School*.

<sup>3</sup> See letter to the Bishop of Lichfield by B. H. Kennedy, D.D., 1842.

<sup>4</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 134.



1836, Dr. Butler's anxiety on the subject was set at rest by a private and unofficial intimation which he received from the master of St. John's College, to the effect that the seniors had quite made up their minds to appoint Mr. Kennedy as soon as the vacancy should occur, and some time in June he was formally elected Head Master of Shrewsbury.

After the Midsummer holidays the new chief, who had in the meantime taken his Doctor's degree, entered upon his duties at Shrewsbury with the same staff of assistant masters that Dr. Butler had left. It is not surprising that the prospect of his resignation should have caused a diminution in the school numbers during the last few years of Dr. Butler's stay at Shrewsbury. The school had reached its culminating point of prosperity in 1832, when the names of 295 boys<sup>1</sup> were on the lists. From that time the numbers began to diminish, and when Dr. Kennedy commenced work in 1836 they had fallen to 228.<sup>2</sup> Although the main features of Dr. Butler's system of school management—half-yearly examinations, promotion by merit throughout the school, merit-money, school bounds, and regular callings over at fixed intervals—were retained unchanged by the new Head Master, he recognized the advisability of introducing reforms in various matters. A remarkable letter, which was written by Bishop Butler to Edward Strutt, Esq., M.P., on November 28th, 1836, on the subject of education, shows that the great classical schoolmaster had now become convinced that the time was come for English public schools "to pay attention to modern languages and modern history," and, in general, to "keep pace with the advancement of mankind." It was by Dr. Butler's advice, as well as at his own desire, that Dr. Kennedy at once made French a regular part of the school

<sup>1</sup> It is so stated by Dr. Kennedy. But it appears from Mr. John Bather's evidence before the Public School Commissioners that the maximum numbers attained by the school in Dr. Butler's time were somewhat greater than this. Mr. Bather said that there were at one time, between 1829 and 1837, as many as 301 boys at Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> See Dr. Kennedy's evidence before the Public School Commission.



work at Shrewsbury.<sup>1</sup> The first modern language master was Signor Albizzi,<sup>2</sup> an Italian refugee, who is said to have been a very agreeable person and much liked. He was over six feet in height, and was very proud of his figure. His teaching mainly consisted of readings from his own history of the downfall of Charles the Tenth and tirades against Louis Philippe. Signor Albizzi eventually recovered his property and returned to Italy.

Another reform of Dr. Kennedy's, though this was not carried out till three years later, was to make mathematics, which had hitherto been taught in the main as "private lessons," part of the regular work of the school.<sup>3</sup> But, in carrying out one reform, Dr. Kennedy had no hesitation and made no delay. By this time Dr. Arnold had shown the possibility of bringing religious influences to bear on boys in public schools, and there is no doubt that Dr. Kennedy had been much impressed by what he had heard of his reforms at Rugby.<sup>4</sup> At any rate, he has expressly stated that he was "emboldened by Dr. Arnold's example" to make use of the first opportunity he had to urge upon the boys when addressing them in chapel the duty of attending Holy Communion. Naturally Dr. Kennedy took pains to make his hearers understand that they were not to regard the matter as having any connection with school discipline, and he assured the boys that neither their attendance nor non-attendance would affect his reports on their character and conduct. The result of the new Head Master's words was that on the following Sunday twenty-eight boys communicated at St. Mary's Church, none of whom had previously

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 203. Strangely enough the upper sixth was the only form in which the study of French was not compulsory. This remained the rule throughout Dr. Kennedy's time. Prizes were given for French in the lower sixth and all the other forms from 1843, but the marks obtained in examination did not affect a boy's place in the school.

<sup>2</sup> His full name was Signor Ottavio Rinaldo Degli Albizzi.

<sup>3</sup> See Dr. Kennedy's evidence before the Public School Commissioners. A prize was given for mathematics in each form, and a boy's place in school was made to depend on the results of the half-yearly examination in classics and mathematics.

<sup>4</sup> See letter from Dr. Butler to the Rev. B. H. Kennedy in *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 113.

done so since they had been at school.<sup>1</sup> The customary *long-lie* on Sunday was also abolished, and henceforth there was always a first lesson on that day, comprising some form of religious instruction. Some Old Salopians, at any rate, still speak with gratitude of the Greek Testament lessons which were now for the first time given in the higher forms.

Another important institution which is due to Dr. Kennedy is known to Shrewsbury boys as *Top Schools*.<sup>2</sup> Long before his time his predecessor had been recommended by Dr. James to send the boys into school to prepare their lessons under the charge of one of the masters—at any rate, until studies had been provided.<sup>3</sup> But Dr. Butler does not appear to have followed this advice. An Old Salopian, who boarded in Bromfield's hall, speaks feelingly at the present day of the inconvenience arising from the fact that during the winter months the boys were locked up in their respective houses from 4.30 p.m. till bedtime without any precaution being taken by the house master to pay occasional visits to the hall to see that those boys who wished to work should be allowed to do so. "Willis,"<sup>4</sup> he writes, "hardly ever came among us during *locking-up* time." Nor did Dr. Kennedy make any change in this respect until he had been Head Master for some years, and the new arrangement was for a time partial in its application.

Preparation of lessons in the presence of a master appears to have been carried on at first in Jee's hall, and only the junior forms were required to attend. But from 1848 or thereabouts all boarders below the sixth form had to go to "preparation" in the big school-room every evening, for two hours in the winter and for a shorter time in the summer, to prepare their lessons and write their exercises for the

<sup>1</sup> See Dr. Kennedy's evidence as above. Early in September, 1837, Bishop Butler held a confirmation in the school chapel, at which sixty-eight boys were confirmed. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,591.)

<sup>2</sup> This institution, though always popularly described by the boys as *Top Schools*, seems to have been officially known as *Preparation* or *Reading-room*.

<sup>3</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. i. pp. 25-39.

<sup>4</sup> The Rev. Arthur Willis was house master in Bromfield's hall.

following day, one or other of the masters being always present to preserve order.<sup>1</sup>

The compulsory use of the college cap by all boys below the upper sixth is a change introduced by Dr. Kennedy which seems to require some explanation. The truth is that when he became Head Master in 1836 he found drinking to be a vice prevalent to a somewhat serious extent in the middle forms. Writing to Dr. Butler a few months after his arrival in Shrewsbury, in reference to a particular case of drunkenness in which he had been obliged to inflict a severe punishment, Dr. Kennedy expressed a fervent desire that Parliament would make it a penal offence for tradesmen to encourage such evil habits among the young.<sup>2</sup> In default of some legislation of that kind it occurred to him after a time that the boys would find it more difficult to obtain admission to hotels and public-houses if they were at once recognisable by their dress as schoolboys. He hoped also that the knowledge that their caps marked them out so unmistakably as belonging to the school would tend to make self-respect some check upon the evil tendencies of the boys themselves. This was the origin of the use of the college cap at Shrewsbury, and in after years Dr. Kennedy always attributed excellent results to this little reform.<sup>3</sup> It was inevitable that some of the changes made by the new Head Master should be regarded among the boys generally as innovations. But Dr. Kennedy has left it on record that he found his sixth form ready from the first to co-operate with him in carrying them out.<sup>4</sup> One happy change there

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Kennedy always considered that the responsibility for the discharge of this duty rested with himself and the second master as holders of the only boarding-houses, and one of the assistant masters received a special stipend for taking the Head Master's share of *Top Schools*. After a time, however, this master was relieved of a somewhat burdensome duty three or four nights in the week by the volunteered assistance of his colleagues.

<sup>2</sup> Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,590.

<sup>3</sup> See Dr. Kennedy's evidence in Report of Public School Commission. The square caps or "mortar boards" appear to have been first adopted in 1838. The boys did not at all relish the change. One of them, after all these years, writes indignantly, "Oh why, oh why did he introduce the college cap? It was a lowering of the school. Oh, the rage of the boys, and the smash-up they made of them when they were brought into the hall!"

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*



SIXTH FORM ROOM UNDER DR. KENNEDY  
TOP SCHOOLS





was, to which none of the boys were likely to raise any objection.

Although his Harrow experience had brought him to the conclusion that cricket and football might be cultivated to the detriment of other more important matters,<sup>1</sup> Dr. Kennedy was strongly impressed with the belief that it was a moral advantage to boys to be supplied with "the means of innocent amusement and exercise in their leisure hours."<sup>2</sup> "Organised games," he considered, "occupied the energies of non-reading boys," and withdrew them from "other and vicious excitements." At the same time he thought it "advantageous in more ways than one," to "boys of high intellectual capacity, to excel in games."<sup>3</sup> One of the first things he did after he became Head Master was to hire the field, about half a mile distant from the school, which had been part of Dr. Butler's farm at Coton Hill, and where he had allowed the boys to play cricket, though not football, as their ordinary playground for all purposes. Boating too, under certain regulations and restrictions, was distinctly recognized as a school institution.<sup>4</sup>

Dr. Kennedy soon made it quite apparent that the standard of scholarship at Shrewsbury was not likely to deteriorate under his care. Between 1841 and 1870 thirty-seven Shrewsbury men obtained a first class in the Classical Tripos at Cambridge, of whom nine were Senior Classics, twelve were university scholars,<sup>5</sup> and eight, Chancellor's Medallists. During the same thirty years eighteen Browne Medals, nineteen Porson Prizes, three Camden Medals, and eight Members' Prizes were also adjudged to Salopians. At Oxford, although only fourteen Shrewsbury men gained first classes, either in moderations or in the final classical schools, thirty were placed in the second class, and five obtained university scholarships. And yet throughout the greater part of this time the school numbers, which had begun to fall off during

<sup>1</sup> *Butler's Life and Letters*, vol. ii. p. 134.

<sup>2</sup> See letter to the Bishop of Lichfield by B. H. Kennedy, D.D., 1842.

<sup>3</sup> See Dr. Kennedy's evidence in Report of Public School Commission.

<sup>4</sup> The first school regatta took place in 1839.

<sup>5</sup> Bell scholars are not included in this estimate.

the last two or three years before Dr. Butler resigned, and had gone on steadily diminishing afterwards, were very small. In 1841 there were only 133 boys in the school, and twenty years went by subsequently before that number was ever again exceeded. At one time the numbers fell as low as eighty. Various causes have been assigned for this serious diminution of prosperity. It is true, no doubt, that Rugby began to rise rapidly in public favour about the time that Dr. Kennedy became Head Master of Shrewsbury, and that, after a few years, Harrow followed suit. But the nearly contemporaneous foundation of three great proprietary schools, Cheltenham, Marlborough, and Rossall,<sup>1</sup> had probably a still more injurious effect on the fortunes of Shrewsbury. The opening of the Grand Junction Railway also exercised some adverse influence, for after that took place Shrewsbury became much less easy of access than most of its rivals among the great schools of England.<sup>2</sup> It must not, however, be forgotten that, although Dr. Kennedy did a good deal to improve the domestic arrangements in the two boarding-houses which he retained in his own hands—providing a single bed for every boy instead of requiring it as heretofore to be paid for as a luxury, introducing a system of ventilation into the bedrooms, and furnishing each bedroom with washing apparatus to supplement the common wash-room,<sup>3</sup> which had previously supplied the only means of ablution<sup>4</sup>—Shrewsbury boys had still, in spite of these changes, to undergo discomforts which were becoming from year to year in most other schools things of the past. And so it came about that when the Public School Commissioners visited Shrewsbury in 1862 they found the school trustees unable to disagree with their own conclusion that the main

<sup>1</sup> Cheltenham was founded in 1841, Marlborough in 1843, and Rossall in 1844.

<sup>2</sup> No railway reached Shrewsbury till 1848.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Kennedy was in this particular somewhat in advance of the times. Several years later than the date of his reform Charterhouse boys had no place where they could wash themselves but the ground-floor lavatories known as "Cocks."

<sup>4</sup> See letter from Dr. Kennedy to Secretary of Public School Commission in Report, vol. ii. p. 350.

cause of the diminution of numbers had been the unsatisfactory condition of the boarding-houses. The Chairman of the Commissioners went so far as to describe the accommodation as "utterly unfit for the present usages of society," and to declare his opinion that no father could help hesitating to send his son to Shrewsbury if he went to look at the school previously.

Dr. Kennedy himself, though with some natural reluctance, acknowledged in his evidence that the many old Shrewsbury men who preferred to send their sons to other public schools might, "to some extent," be influenced by "a painful realization of the discomforts they had themselves endured." It is worth while to dwell upon these facts, for they enable us to appreciate better the marvellous energy of the brilliant scholar and able teacher who, in spite of the "inanition" from which Shrewsbury School suffered during the greater part of his head-mastership, sent out into the world an array of distinguished men of whom any school might be proud.

Two boys, whom Dr. Kennedy found at Shrewsbury in 1836, and who remained under his charge for five years, William Basil Jones<sup>1</sup> and William Walsham How,<sup>2</sup> rose to be Bishops of the Church of England; the former, after a

<sup>1</sup> *William Basil Jones*, son of William Tilsley Jones, Esq., of Gwyn Fryn, Machynlleth, High Sheriff of Cardiganshire in 1838. Born 1822. At Shrewsbury School, 1834-1841; head boy, 1841; scholar of Trinity College, Oxford, 1840, and Ireland university scholar, 1842; 2nd class lit. hum., 1844; Michel fellow of Queen's College, 1848; fellow of Trinity, 1851; Examiner in Classical Moderations, 1856; Senior Proctor, 1861; Prebendary of St. David's, 1859-1865; Examining Chaplain to Archbishop of York, 1861; Vicar of Haxby, Yorkshire, 1863-1865; Vicar of Bishopsthorpe, 1865-1874; Archdeacon of York, 1867-1874; Chancellor of York, 1871-1874; Canon of York, 1873-1874; Bishop of St. David's, 1874-1897. Author, conjointly with Professor E. A. Freeman, of the *History and Antiquities of St. David's*.

<sup>2</sup> *William Walsham How*, son of William Wyberg How, Esq., of Shrewsbury. Born 1823. At Shrewsbury School, 1832-1841; B.A. of Wadham College, Oxford, 1845; M.A., 1847; D.D., 1886; ordained, 1846; curate to Rev. T. L. Claughton at Kidderminster, 1846-1848; curate of Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, 1848-1851; Rector of Whittington, Shropshire, 1851-1879; Rural Dean of Oswestry, 1853-1879; Chancellor of St. Asaph, 1859-1879; Select Preacher at Oxford, 1868 and 1869; Bishop Suffragan of London, under the title of Bishop of Bedford and Rector of St. Andrew Undershaft, 1879-1888; Bishop of Wakefield, 1888-1897. Died in Ireland, August 10th, 1897.



distinguished career and useful academical work at Oxford, followed by eleven or twelve years spent in Yorkshire as parish clergyman, Archdeacon, and Canon; the latter, after thirty years' parochial experience, during which he became widely known in England by his *Plain Words* and other religious works. But Basil Jones was by no means the only one of Dr. Kennedy's pupils to become an Archdeacon. Shrewsbury School, indeed, in his time would seem to have furnished some special preparation for the discharge of "archidiaconal functions."

Nine other Salopians at least, who were educated under Kennedy, became in good time Archdeacons.

Robert Henry Cobbold,<sup>1</sup> who took a second class in Classics at Peterhouse in 1843, went out to China as a missionary, and was made Archdeacon of Ningpo.

George Hans Hamilton<sup>2</sup> was Archdeacon of Lindisfarne from 1865 to 1882, and now fills the like office in Northumberland.

Henry William Watkins,<sup>3</sup> a distinguished theological scholar, who has been Bampton Lecturer at Oxford, was Archdeacon of Northumberland from 1880 to 1882, and then became, in succession, Archdeacon of Auckland and Archdeacon of Durham.

<sup>1</sup> *Robert Henry Cobbold*, son of Robert Wright Cobbold, Esq., of Eye, Suffolk. Born 1820. At Shrewsbury School, 1833-1839. After returning to England Archdeacon Cobbold became Rector of Ross and Prebendary of Hereford. Died September 15th, 1893.

<sup>2</sup> *George Hans Hamilton*, son of Henry Hamilton, Esq., of Tullylisk, County Down. At Shrewsbury School, 1835-1842; B.A. of Trinity College, Dublin, 1845; M.A., 1850; B.D. and D.D., 1883; admitted M.A. (*ad eundem*) at Durham, 1852, and at Oxford, 1858; ordained, 1846; Vicar of Berwick-on-Tweed and Chaplain of Berwick Gaol, 1854-1865; Hon. Canon of Durham, 1863-1882; Vicar of Eglingham, 1865-1882; Chaplain of Durham County Prison, 1848-1853; Canon of Durham and Archdeacon of Northumberland, 1882.

<sup>3</sup> *Henry William Watkins*, son of William Watkins, Esq., of Llanvetherne, County Monmouth. B.A. of London University, 1868; M.A., 1873; ordained, 1870; hon. fellow of King's College, London, 1872; curate of Pluckley, Kent, 1870-1872; scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, 1872-1875; B.A., 1877; M.A., 1878; Vicar of Much Wenlock, Shropshire, 1873-1875; censor, tutor, and Chaplain of King's College, London, 1875-1878; Professor of Logic and Moral Philosophy, 1877-1879; Warden of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, 1877-1879; Professor of Hebrew in Durham University, 1880; Examining Chaplain to Bishop of Durham, 1879; Canon of Durham, 1880; Archdeacon of Auckland, 1882; Archdeacon of Durham, 1882; Bampton Lecturer, 1890.

Henry de Winton,<sup>1</sup> who graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1846 as third Classic, became subsequently Archdeacon of Brecon.

Hugh Morgan, B.A., of Jesus College, Oxford, in 1847, was made Canon and Archdeacon of St. Asaph in 1877.

Edwin Hamilton Gifford,<sup>2</sup> Senior Classic and Senior Chancellor's Medallist in 1843, and afterwards Head Master of King Edward's School, Birmingham, was Archdeacon of London from 1884 to 1889.

Thomas Bucknall Lloyd,<sup>3</sup> grandson of Dr. Butler, and for many years Vicar of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, was Archdeacon of Salop-in-Lichfield from 1886 to 1896.

John Russell Walker<sup>4</sup> was Archdeacon of Chichester from 1879 to 1887.

Thomas Stevens,<sup>5</sup> F.S.A., who graduated at Magdalene College, Cambridge, and was for a time an assistant master at the Charterhouse, is now Archdeacon of Essex.

<sup>1</sup> *Henry de Winton*, son of Rev. Walter Wilkins, of the Hay, Brecknockshire. Born 1823. At Shrewsbury School, 1835-1842; scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge; Browne Medal for Greek Ode, 1845; B.A., 1846; M.A., 1849; Rector of Boughrood, Radnorshire, 1849-1881; Rural Dean of Brecon, 1864-1880; Examining Chaplain to Bishop of St. David's, 1874-1882; Rector of Cefnlllys with Llandrindod, 1881; Archdeacon of Brecon, 1875. Died at Tenby, April 7th, 1895.

<sup>2</sup> *Edwin Hamilton Gifford*. See List of Masters in Appendix, where other details are given of some of Dr. Gifford's various distinctions.

<sup>3</sup> *Thomas Bucknall Lloyd*, son of John Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Shrewsbury, banker. Born 1824. At Shrewsbury School, 1831 to 1842; scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1846; M.A., 1849; curate of Lilleshall, 1848-1851; Vicar of Meole Brace, 1851-1854; Proctor in Convocation, 1885-1886; Prebendary of Lichfield, 1870; Rural Dean of Shrewsbury, 1873-1887; Rector of Edgmond, Shropshire, 1888. Died February 26th, 1896. Chairman of the school Governing Body for the last few years before he died.

<sup>4</sup> *John Russell Walker*, son of John Walker, Esq., of Bury, Lancashire. Born 1837. B.A. of University College, Oxford, 1859; 2nd class lit. hum.; M.A., 1862; ordained, 1862; curate of Middleton, 1862-1865; perpetual curate of Walmesley, 1865-1868; Rector of Heywood, Lancashire, 1870-1874; Canon of Chichester, 1874-1887. Died October 30th, 1887.

<sup>5</sup> *Thomas Stevens*. B.A., 1863; M.A., 1867; F.S.A., 1889; assistant master of the Charterhouse, 1863-1866; curate of St. Mary's, Charterhouse, 1865-1866; curate of Woodford, Hants, 1866-1868; curate of St. Mark's, Victoria Docks, 1868-1870; Vicar, 1870-1872; curate of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, 1872-1873; curate of Holy Trinity, Brompton, 1873-75; Vicar of St. Luke's, Victoria Docks, 1875-82; Vicar of Saffron Walden, 1882-89; Vicar of St. John's, Stratford, 1889; Archdeacon of Essex, 1894.

Francis Morse,<sup>1</sup> who was in the lower sixth when Dr. Kennedy began work in 1836, went up to St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1838, and was seventh Classic in 1842. He was afterwards Vicar of St. Mary's, Nottingham, Prebendary of Lincoln, and Chaplain to the Bishop of Lincoln. He was held in high reputation as an impressive preacher.

James Fleming, Canon of York and Chaplain-in-Ordinary to the Queen, was at Shrewsbury 1846-1849.

Herbert Mortimer Luckock,<sup>2</sup> who gained various theological distinctions at Cambridge, and afterwards did useful work as Principal of the Ely Theological College, is now Dean of Lichfield.

Robert Eyton,<sup>3</sup> Canon of Westminster, and George Herbert Whitaker,<sup>4</sup> who was bracketed Senior Classic at Cambridge in 1870, and has been a Canon Residentiary both at Truro and Hereford, were at Shrewsbury in the latter part of Dr. Kennedy's head-mastership.

<sup>1</sup> *Francis Morse*, son of Thomas Morse, Esq., of Blundeston, Lowestoft. Born 1819. At Shrewsbury School, 1834-1838; perpetual curate of Ladywood, Birmingham, 1854-1864; Hulsean Lecturer, 1863; Select Preacher at Cambridge, 1857, 1859, 1868, 1878. Died 1888.

<sup>2</sup> *Herbert Mortimer Luckock*. Scholar and afterwards fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge; B.A. (2nd class Classical Tripos), 1858; M.A., 1862; D.D., 1879. He gained the Scholfield and Carus Greek Testament Prizes, the Crosse Theological scholarship and the Tyrwhitt Hebrew scholarship, and was in the 1st class of the Theological Tripos in 1860. He also carried off the Members' Prize for a Latin Essay on three occasions. Vicar of All Saints', Cambridge, 1862-1863, and again, 1865-1875; Rector of Gayhurst with Stoke Goldington, 1863-1865; Canon of Ely, 1875-1892; Principal of Ely Theological College, 1876-1887; Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Ely, 1873-1887; Select Preacher at Cambridge, 1865, 1874, 1875, 1883, 1884, and 1892; Dean of Lichfield, 1892. Author of various theological works.

<sup>3</sup> *Robert Eyton*. B.A. of Christ Church, Oxford, 1869; M.A., 1872; curate of St. Nicholas', Guildford, 1870-1878; curate of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, 1878-1884; Sub-Almoner to the Queen, 1883; Rector of Upper Chelsea, 1884-1895; Rector of St. Margaret's and Canon of Westminster, 1895.

<sup>4</sup> *George Herbert Whitaker*. Second Bell scholar, 1867; B.A., 1870; fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1870-1892; curate of St. Michael's, Cambridge, 1875-1877; Canon of Truro, 1885-1886; Whitehall Preacher, 1888-1889; Canon of Hereford, 1889-1892; Examining Chaplain to two Bishops of Truro and the late Bishop of Wakefield.



A much older pupil of his, the Rev. Godfrey Thring,<sup>1</sup> is well known for his beautiful hymns and sacred lyrics.

Of the brilliant band of Shrewsbury scholars who graduated at Oxford and Cambridge between 1842 and 1852 several occupy a distinguished position in the annals of literature. Mr. Hugh A. J. Munro's<sup>2</sup> edition of *Lucretius* has been described as the most valuable contribution to Latin scholarship by any Englishman during the present century. Certainly it enjoys a European reputation. Much the same may be said of the great edition of *Juvenal*, published by Mr. J. E. B. Mayor,<sup>3</sup> who became Professor of Latin when Mr. Munro resigned in 1872, and who is almost as widely known for his profound antiquarian researches as for his brilliant classical scholarship.

William George Clark,<sup>4</sup> who went up to Trinity College, Cambridge, two years after Munro, although he was not, like

<sup>1</sup> *Godfrey Thring*, son of the Rev. John Gale Dalton Thring, of Alford, Castle-Cary, Somerset. B.A. of Balliol College, Oxford, 1845; ordained, 1846; curate of Stratfield Turgis, 1845-1850; curate of Strathfieldsaye, 1850-1853; curate of Euston, Norfolk, 1856; curate of Arberfield, Berks, 1857; Rector of Alford with Hornblotton, Somerset, 1858-1892; Rural Dean of Castle-Cary, 1867-1876.

<sup>2</sup> *Hugh Andrew Johnstone Munro*. At Shrewsbury School, 1833-1838; head boy, 1838; Craven scholar, 1841; second Classic and Senior Chancellor's Medallist, 1842; fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, 1843; Examiner for the Classical Tripos, 1851; Professor of Latin, 1869. Mr. Munro's election to the professorship was commemorated by Richard Shilleto in one of his happy couplets:—

Esto professor carus editor Cari,  
Carus Sabrinæ, carior suæ Grantæ.

The first edition of Mr. Munro's *Lucretius* was published in 1860. He died at Rome, March 30th, 1885.

<sup>3</sup> *Professor John Eyton Bickersteth Mayor* is an Hon. LL.D. of Aberdeen and an Hon. D.C.L. of Oxford. He was at Shrewsbury School from 1838 to 1844, and head boy, 1843-44; third Classic, 1848; fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1849; Public Librarian, 1864-1867; editor of *BAKER'S History of St. John's College*, the college register of admissions, and other valuable antiquarian works. Professor Mayor has from the first taken a warm interest in the "Old Catholic" movement.

<sup>4</sup> *William George Clark*. Born March 21st, 1821. At Shrewsbury School, 1838-1840; head boy, 1840. Mr. Clark wrote charming accounts of his tours in Spain and Greece in 1849 and 1856, the former under the title of *Gaspacho*, and the latter under that of *The Peloponnesus*. He died at York, November 6th, 1878.



his school-fellow, successful in gaining a university scholarship, showed his poetic taste and his skill in composition by carrying off the Porson Prize and three Browne Medals. In 1844 he was placed second in the first class of the Classical Tripos and was Junior Chancellor's Medallist, and in the same year he was elected fellow of his college. Henceforth, except during the vacations, Mr. Clark resided in Cambridge almost continuously until 1873. He filled the office of college tutor and subsequently that of vice-master, and from 1857 to 1869 he was public orator of the university. In 1852 he examined for the Classical Tripos. Much of his time was devoted to literary pursuits. In 1850, in conjunction with Dr. Kennedy and the Rev. James Riddell, Mr. Clark edited the *Sabrinæ Corolla*. He also edited the *Cambridge Essays* in 1855, and helped to establish the *Journal of Philology*. But his chief literary work was *The Cambridge Shakespeare*, in the editing of which he had the assistance, first, of the Rev. John Glover, and afterwards of Mr. W. Aldis Wright.<sup>1</sup> Few who knew William George Clark can readily forget his genial wit, his brilliant conversation, his refined taste, and his kindliness of heart. His proposed edition of *Aristophanes*, on which he laboured for many years, might perhaps have earned him a reputation equal to that enjoyed by his school-fellows, Munro and Mayor, had his health during the latter part of his life allowed him to complete it. Edward Meredith Cope<sup>2</sup> was a præpostor when Dr. Butler left Shrewsbury in 1836, and had some

<sup>1</sup> It is only right to mention that, from the time Mr. Aldis Wright's co-operation in *The Cambridge Shakespeare* commenced, the chief part of the work was due to his labours.

<sup>2</sup> *Edward Meredith Cope*, son of Charles Cope, Esq., of Birmingham. Born July 28th, 1818. His school education began at Ludlow, but he removed to Shrewsbury in 1832, and remained there for five years. Head boy in 1837; B.A., 1841; M.A., 1844; fellow, 1845; ordained, 1848. In 1867 he was a candidate for the Greek professorship to which the Council of the Senate elects, and received the same number of votes as Dr. Kennedy. Subsequently, the Vice-Chancellor and the Master of Trinity differing in opinion, the choice rested with the Duke of Devonshire, as Chancellor of the university, who selected Dr. Kennedy. Mr. Cope's health broke down two years later, and he died in 1873. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

fifteen months of Dr. Kennedy's teaching before he went up to Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1837. He gained the Porson Prize in 1839, and in 1841 he was Senior Classic. Like Munro and Clark he resided most of his life at Cambridge, and took his share in the college tuition. In 1850, 1851, and 1853 he was an examiner for the Classical Tripos. The chief literary work with which Mr. Cope's name is associated is an edition of the *Rhetoric* of Aristotle, which was published posthumously in 1877 under the editorship of Mr. J. E. Sandys, fellow and tutor of St. John's College, and public orator.

Another brilliant Salopian of those days was James Riddell,<sup>1</sup> for many years fellow and tutor of Balliol College, Oxford, a man whose fine scholarship was widely recognized, and who has already been mentioned as one of the editors of *Sabrinæ Corolla*. Nor must we omit to include among the modern Salopians who have attained high literary distinction the name of Robert Burn,<sup>2</sup> the gifted author of *Rome and the Campagna*, another fellow and tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge, who shared with Lord Macnaghten and the late James Lempriere Hammond the first place in the Classical Tripos of 1852.

Many other Shrewsbury pupils of Dr. Kennedy, after taking high honours at Oxford or Cambridge, have done, or are still doing, useful work for their university. Edwin

<sup>1</sup> *James Riddell*, son of the Rev. James Riddell, Rector of Easton, Hants. At Shrewsbury School from 1838 to 1841; elected scholar of Balliol in November, 1840, but did not go into residence at Oxford till October, 1841; head boy when he left school; placed in 1st class lit. hum. and 3rd class mathematics in 1845; elected fellow of Balliol, 1845; ordained, 1852; Classical Examiner, 1865-66; Classical Moderator, 1865-66; Proctor and Select Preacher in 1862. Died at Tunbridge Wells, September 14th, 1866, aged forty-three. Dr. Kennedy regarded James Riddell as one of the best scholars, if not the best, that he ever sent out.

<sup>2</sup> *Robert Burn*. At Shrewsbury School, 1842-1848; 2nd class in Natural Science, 1853; Examiner for Classical Tripos, 1862 and 1883; Prælector of Roman History and Archæology at Trinity College, 1873; Hon. LL.D. of Glasgow University, 1883. Besides his *Rome and the Campagna* Mr. Burn has published useful raised maps of Rome and Athens and a guide to the ruins at Rome, under the title *Old Rome*.

Charles Clark,<sup>1</sup> Senior Classic and Senior Chancellor's Medalist in 1858, has been for many years Regius Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge, and has also served on several occasions as one of the examiners in the Classical and Law Triposes. Arthur Holmes,<sup>2</sup> whose undergraduate career at Cambridge was hardly less brilliant than that of Kennedy himself, was for many years classical lecturer at St. John's and Clare Colleges, and examined four times for the Classical Tripos. Henry Melville Gwatkin,<sup>3</sup> who is now Dixie Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Cambridge, enjoys the unprecedented honour of having gained a first class in no less than four different Triposes. William Francis Smith,<sup>4</sup> late fellow and tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge, acted for many years as a lecturer for his college. Henry Arthur Morgan,<sup>5</sup> master of Jesus College, Cambridge, did much by his ability and energy as tutor to raise the position of his college in the university. He has also served on the Council of the Senate, and has been Select Preacher at the University Church. Charles Edward Graves,<sup>6</sup> who shared the Porson Prize in 1861 with the present Head Master of Shrewsbury School, and was second

<sup>1</sup> *Edwin Charles Clark*. Browne Medallist, 1856; B.A., 1858; M.A., 1861; LL.M., 1871; Examiner for the Classical Tripos in 1866, 1867, 1871, and 1872; formerly fellow of Trinity College, but now of St. John's; member of the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School.

<sup>2</sup> *Arthur Holmes*. At Shrewsbury School for nearly ten years, and a præpostor for more than a third of the time; head boy, 1853-1855. In his freshman's year at St. John's College, Cambridge, he was elected first Bell scholar and Craven university scholar, and before taking his degree he gained the Porson Prize three times and one of the Browne Medals twice, besides carrying off the Chancellor's Medal for an English poem. In 1858 he graduated as second Classic.

<sup>3</sup> *Henry Melville Gwatkin*. B.A., 1867; M.A., 1870. Professor Gwatkin graduated at St. John's and was elected a fellow of his college, but is now a fellow of Emmanuel. The four Triposes in which he gained a first class were the Mathematical, Classical, Theological, and Moral Sciences.

<sup>4</sup> *William Francis Smith* was second Classic in 1866. He edited *Rabelais* a few years ago "carefully and efficiently."

<sup>5</sup> *Henry Arthur Morgan*. B.A. (twenty-sixth Wrangler), 1853; M.A., 1856; D.D., 1886; Sadlerian Lecturer at Jesus College, 1853-1863; Mathematical Lecturer, 1858-1885; fellow, 1858-1885; tutor, 1863-1885; member of the Council of the Senate, 1868-1872; Select Preacher for the University, 1886 and 1893.

<sup>6</sup> *Charles Edward Graves*. Head boy, 1857-1858; Examiner for the Classical Tripos in 1870, 1871, 1875, 1883, 1884, and 1886.



Classic in 1862, is a fellow and tutor of St. John's College, at Cambridge, and has been a frequent examiner for the Classical Tripos. There is no doubt that in Dr. Butler's time a preponderating majority of those of his pupils who went to the universities became Cambridge men. But this preference for the banks of the Cam was much more marked during the head-mastership of Dr. Kennedy, although Oxford has not been without some distinguished representatives of Shrewsbury besides those who have been already mentioned. William Inge,<sup>1</sup> who took a first class in Moderations in 1852, and in the final Classical School in 1853, is now Provost of Worcester College. The Right Hon. Sir George Osborne Morgan,<sup>2</sup> Bart., Q.C., gained a Craven university scholarship, the Eldon Law scholarship and other distinctions while he was at Oxford, and had subsequently a successful career both at the Bar and in the House of Commons. He repeated Brancker's feat of gaining a university scholarship while still a schoolboy. John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell,<sup>3</sup> of Christ Church, Oxford, who is now a member of the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School, carried off the Ireland and Craven scholarships, and took a first class, both in Moderations and in the final Classical School. Patrick Cumin,<sup>4</sup> C.B., a Balliol man, who filled for some years the office of Secretary to the Education Department, was also educated as a boy at Shrewsbury.

<sup>1</sup> *William Inge*. B.A., 1853; M.A., 1855; curate of Crayke, Yorkshire, 1857-1875; Vicar of Alrewas with Fradley, Staffordshire, 1875-1881; Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield, 1880-1891, and to the Archbishop of York, 1891-1892; Provost of Worcester College, Oxford, 1881.

<sup>2</sup> *George Osborne Morgan*. Originally a member of Worcester College, but elected to the Stowell Civil Law fellowship at University College in 1850; 1st class lit. hum., 1850; prize for English Essay, 1850; called to the Bar, 1853; Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, 1890; M.P. for Denbighshire, 1868-1885; M.P. for East Denbighshire, 1885-1897; created a baronet in 1892. Died 1897.

<sup>3</sup> *John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell*, son of Rev. J. E. Shadwell, of Southampton. Head boy at Shrewsbury, 1859-1861; matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, 1861, aged eighteen; Ireland university scholar, 1864; Craven university scholar, 1865; 1st class lit. hum., 1865; Junior Student of Christ Church, 1861-1866; Senior Student, 1866-1887; B.A., 1865; M.A., 1869; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1869.

<sup>4</sup> *Patrick Cumin*, son of William Cumin, Esq., of Glasgow, M.D. Born 1823; B.A., 1845; M.A., 1850; called to the Bar (Inner Temple), 1855. Died 1890.



It must be confessed, however, that Shrewsbury has not of late years sent out many men into the world who have in after life risen to high position as lawyers or politicians. Some exceptional cases there are, no doubt, besides that of Sir George Osborne Morgan. George Druce,<sup>1</sup> Q.C., fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge, who was bracketed Senior Classic in 1843, had attained a very high position at the Chancery Bar when his career was brought to an untimely end by a fall from his horse. Lord Thring,<sup>2</sup> third Classic in 1841, who was Counsel to the Home Office for some years and subsequently Parliamentary Secretary, was at Shrewsbury School. So also were the Right Hon. Henry Cecil Raikes,<sup>3</sup> who represented the university of Cambridge for some years in the House of Commons, and made a very successful Chairman of Committees; and the Right Hon. Sir John Tomlinson Hibbert,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *George Druce* was the eldest of six brothers who were educated at Shrewsbury. He gained the Porson Prize twice while he was an undergraduate, and was recorded as *proxime accessit* when his old school-fellow Gifford gained the Pitt university scholarship in 1842. He was Junior Chancellor's Medallist in 1843. In addition to his classical and legal eminence, Mr. Druce deserved the credit that is always given in England to a "good sportsman."

<sup>2</sup> *Henry Thring*, son of the Rev. John Gale Dalton Thring, of Alford House, Somerset. Born 1818. At Shrewsbury School, 1831-1837; B.A. of Magdalene College, Cambridge, 1841; M.A., 1844; called to the Bar, 1845; Counsel to the Home Office, 1860-1868; Parliamentary Counsel, 1868-1886; K.C.B., 1873; raised to the Peerage as Baron Thring, 1886; hon. fellow of Magdalene College, and member of the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School.

<sup>3</sup> *Henry Cecil Raikes*, son of Henry Raikes, Esq., Registrar of the Diocese of Chester. Born November 25th, 1838. In the sixth form at Shrewsbury when only thirteen years old; head boy, 1856; scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, 1859; B.A. (2nd class Classical Tripos), 1860; President of the University Union Society; called to the Bar, 1863; contested the boroughs of Derby, Chester, and Devonport unsuccessfully before he was elected, in 1868, M.P. for Chester; Chairman of Committees, 1874-1880; in 1880 Raikes lost his seat for Chester, but he was elected M.P. for Preston in 1882, and later in the year for the university of Cambridge, which he continued to represent till his death in 1891; Postmaster-General, 1886-1891; Chancellor of the Diocese of St. Asaph, 1880-1891; Chairman of the Council of Diocesan Conferences, 1880-1886; Hon. LL.D. of Cambridge. Raikes was a strong Churchman, a clever debater, and a good scholar. In Dr. Kennedy's opinion he would have taken a high place in the Classical Tripos had he remained at school a year longer. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>4</sup> *John Tomlinson Hibbert*. Born 1824. B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1847; M.A., 1851; M.P. for Oldham, 1862-1874, 1877-1886, and 1892-1895; Secretary to the Local Government Board, 1872-1874 and 1880-1883; Under Secretary to the Home Department, 1883-1884; Secretary to the Admiralty, 1886; Secretary to the Treasury, 1892-1895.

K.C.B., the present Chairman of the school Governing Body, who has sat in several Parliaments for Oldham, and has held various Ministerial offices. Richard Saul Ferguson,<sup>1</sup> M.A., LL.M., F.S.A., Chancellor of the Diocese of Carlisle, Chairman of Quarter Sessions for Cumberland, and an antiquarian of distinction, is another well-known Salopian, and a few additional names of fairly successful lawyers might be added.<sup>2</sup>

In his evidence before the Public School Commissioners in 1862 Dr. Kennedy said that "in public life, at the Bar, and in the army, Shrewsbury has been sparingly represented in point of numbers" . . . that "the bulk of Salopian names is to be found in the clerical profession" . . . and that "their fields of active usefulness have been the universities, the schools, and the parishes of England."

Certainly neither the army nor the navy drew many recruits from Shrewsbury School between 1836 and 1866, although the names of a few boys may be found in the school lists who gained in after life some distinction in one or other of those two branches of her Majesty's service.

<sup>1</sup> *Richard Saul Ferguson*. Born at Carlisle 1837; B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge (twenty-seventh Wrangler), 1860; M.A., 1863; LL.M., 1874; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1862. Has twice been Mayor of Carlisle.

<sup>2</sup> Ratcliffe Pring served as Attorney-General in Queensland in five administrations, and was subsequently a Puisne Judge in the Supreme Court of that colony. He died in 1885. Sir John Smalman Smith, who graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1870, and afterwards went to the Bar, was made a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast in 1883, Judge of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Vice-Admiralty at Lagos in 1886, and Chief Justice in 1889. William Wynne Ffoulkes has been County Court Judge of the Chester district since 1875. Francis Williams Raikes, M.A. and LL.D., of Peterhouse, Cambridge, Q.C., has also been recently made a County Court judge. Other well-known Salopian lawyers are Samuel Hawkesley Burbury, who was head boy 1849-1850, and subsequently graduated in 1854 at St. John's College, Cambridge, as second Classic, fifteenth Wrangler, and Junior Chancellor's Medallist, after gaining the Craven university scholarship and a Porson Prize while an undergraduate; Cyril Dodd, Q.C., who took a first class in mathematics at Merton College, Oxford, in 1865, and sat in the House of Commons for the Maldon Division of Essex from 1892 to 1895, and B. Francis Williams, Q.C., Recorder of Cardiff. Alfred Cock, Q.C., who died within the last few months at a comparatively early age, was also at Shrewsbury School. Another old Salopian, John Spencer Phillips, who graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was an excellent oar and cricketer, now occupies a distinguished commercial position as Chairman of Lloyd's Banking Co.

General Horace Montagu, R.E., C.B., Knight of the Legion of Honour, served through the Crimean War, except during a few months when he was a prisoner at Odessa. Colonel Charles Townshend Wilson, of the Coldstream Guards, author of *The Duke of Berwick, Marshal of France*; Lieut.-Colonel Henry Warter Meredith, and Colonel Thomas Basil Fanshawe, also fought in the Crimea. Major-General John Robert Sladen, Major-General Horatio Nelson Davies, Captain Eaton, R.N., Commissary-General Arthur William Downes, Colonel Arthur James Poole, C.B., and Lieut.-Colonel Charles Edward Yate, C.S.I., C.M.G., are other exceptional cases.

Of the Salopians who have done, or are still doing, valuable work in two of the fields of usefulness to which Dr. Kennedy alludes, numerous examples have already been given, and to educational work in schools, the third of these, several of his most distinguished pupils have devoted some of the best years of their lives. Edwin Hamilton Gifford, Senior Classic in 1843, was second master of Shrewsbury from 1843 to 1848, and Head Master of Birmingham from 1848 to 1862. Stephen Poyntz Denning, a distinguished graduate of Durham, was Head Master of Worcester Cathedral School, and afterwards Warden of Bradfield College. Edward Lawford Brown,<sup>1</sup> Senior Classic and Senior Chancellor's Medallist in 1858, and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, was an assistant master at Marlborough College from 1856 to 1860. Alexander William Potts,<sup>2</sup> second Classic and Junior Chan-

<sup>1</sup> *Edward Lawford Brown.* Head boy, 1851-1852; first Bell scholar, 1853; *proxime accessit* to Craven university scholar, 1855; Porson Prize, 1855. Died at Marlborough, May 9th, 1860.

<sup>2</sup> *Alexander William Potts* was bracketed second Classic with James Robertson, late Head Master of Haileybury, in the same year in which his school-fellow, E. C. Clark, was Senior Classic. Many old friends have a lively recollection of "the long but not stern swell" of whom C. S. Calverley speaks in one of his humorous poems, whose genial temperament, wide range of information, keen sense of humour, and musical voice made him a very pleasant companion at Cambridge between 1854 and 1860. To their Head Master's Shrewsbury training may be attributed in great measure the large number of university prizes carried off by Fettes boys within a few years, including six Porson Prizes. Some knowledge of Potts's sterling character, as well as of the excellent work which he did at Fettes College, may be gleaned from a volume of his *School Sermons*, which was published shortly after his death.



cellor's Medallist in 1858, fellow and lecturer of St. John's College, Cambridge, and subsequently an assistant master at Charterhouse and Rugby, was appointed Head Master of Fettes College, Edinburgh, in 1870, and continued his very successful work there till his death in 1889.

Henry Whitehead Moss, Senior Classic in 1864, has been Head Master of Shrewsbury since 1866.

George Preston, late fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge, who took a first class in classics in 1864, was an assistant master at Shrewsbury from 1864 to 1870, and at Birmingham from 1870 to 1872, and was subsequently Head Master, first of Ruthin School from 1872 to 1875, and then of the King's School, Chester, from 1875 to 1888.

George Hanley Hallam,<sup>1</sup> Senior Classic in 1869, and late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, has been for many years an assistant master at Harrow. Other names might be added, but enough has been said as to the occupations in after life of Dr. Kennedy's pupils. Of the incidental events of school life during his head-mastership there are a few which should not be passed over without notice. Naturally enough the steady diminution of the school numbers, which commenced in Dr. Butler's time and continued subsequently until, in 1841, there were only 133 boys in the school, was the cause of considerable anxiety to his successor. But it so happened that Shrewsbury met with a very remarkable success in the Classical Tripos of that year at Cambridge, the first three places being all attained by men who had been educated at that school. Advantage of this occurrence was at once taken by the leading inhabitants of Shropshire to present Dr. Kennedy with an address,<sup>2</sup> assuring him of the esteem in which he was held by his neighbours, and the perfect confidence which they reposed in him as the Head Master of Shrewsbury School. This address was signed by about 200 persons, including

<sup>1</sup> *George Hanley Hallam*. Head boy, 1864-1865; gained the Craven university scholarship and three Browne Medals while an undergraduate; bracketed Senior Classic in 1869.

<sup>2</sup> The address was presented in March, 1841.



the school trustees, several peers and members of Parliament, forty-four magistrates, and the chief professional men, merchants, and tradesmen of Shrewsbury and the neighbourhood, and was presented to Dr. Kennedy in Top Schools by Mr. John Loxdale, the Mayor, who went thither in state for the purpose, accompanied by the rest of the Corporation. Dr. Kennedy's reply to the address, which is preserved in a letter written by him to the Bishop of Lichfield, and published in 1842, is of special interest, both as a careful statement of the chief motives which induced him to accept the head-mastership of Shrewsbury,<sup>1</sup> and also as an exposition of the principles on which he based, or desired to base, his dealings with the boys under his charge. These were, he emphatically stated, to be lenient, and even indulgent, so far as he could be so, consistently with the strictness which is needful in matters of vital import; to reduce corporal punishment within the narrowest limits; to deal with boys as rational beings, by explaining to them the reasons of discipline and the just motives to obedience; to give credence to every boy of unimpeached character, and to make his pupils generally, and the elder boys especially, understand and feel that his advice and assistance would always be at their disposal, and that if they erred for want of a counsellor and friend the fault would be their own. Towards the end of this same year, 1841, an anonymous letter appeared in one of the London newspapers, in which imputations were made against the religious teaching given in the school. Among other allegations it was stated by the writer of the letter that he believed that three of the masters who held "erroneous and strange doctrines" were engaged in "pouring out their curses loud and deep upon the principles of Protestantism," that one of them had taught the doctrine of *transubstantiation* in a sermon preached at St. Chad's Church, and that the pupil of another had recently become a Roman Catholic. Neither accuracy nor fairness can

<sup>1</sup> Prominent among the motives which Dr. Kennedy mentioned were his strong affection for his old school and his earnest confidence in the wisdom and power of its system.

reasonably be expected from an anonymous assailant, and it is evident that the writer of the letter was very imperfectly acquainted with theological questions. The sermon to which he referred had been preached by the Rev. William Linwood, the distinguished scholar, who was then an assistant curate of St. Chad's, and appears to have been an able exposition of the teaching of some of the most honoured theological writers whom the Church of England has known since the Reformation.

The incident is chiefly noteworthy as affording an illustration of the loyal support which Dr. Kennedy invariably extended to his colleagues, as well as of the intense dislike which, like his predecessor, he felt for meanness, intolerance, and narrow-mindedness. Much of the correspondence which took place on the subject is printed in Dr. Kennedy's letter to the Bishop of Lichfield, to which reference has already been made.

Mr. Linwood, whose undergraduate career at Oxford was one of almost unparalleled brilliancy, had been for about two years an assistant master at Shrewsbury School, and to him Dr. Kennedy had given up much of the teaching of the sixth form, while he himself exercised a general supervision over the instruction of the rest of the school with the view of raising the standard of teaching in the lower forms. Of this master Dr. Kennedy said that he was "one of the best scholars, and most upright and single-hearted men," it had ever been his lot to know.<sup>1</sup> But Mr. Linwood was not the only master whom Dr. Kennedy associated with himself in the teaching of the sixth form. Mr. T. F. Henney and Mr. W. J. Kennedy<sup>2</sup> had both been in the habit of taking the sixth for *private lesson* on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mr. Gifford did the same when he became second master in 1843. Mr. T. S. Evans is also said, during some years of his stay at Shrewsbury, to have added to the regular teaching of the

<sup>1</sup> See letter to the Bishop of Lichfield, by B. H. Kennedy, D.D., 1842.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Henney left Shrewsbury in 1838, and was succeeded by the Rev. W. J. Kennedy, the youngest brother of the Head Master, who only remained about two years.

fifth form the superintendence of much of the sixth form composition exercises.<sup>1</sup>

In 1843 Dr. Kennedy was made a Prebendary of Lichfield, and in the same year he published his elementary Latin Grammar, which, after being largely used for many years in English schools, was adopted in 1864 as the basis of *The Public School Latin Primer*.<sup>2</sup>

It was in 1843 also that the Rev. James Ind Welldon, M.A., who had been for eight years second master, was appointed to the head-mastership of Tonbridge School, and was succeeded at Shrewsbury by Mr. Edwin Hamilton Gifford, fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, who had graduated a short time before as Senior Classic and fifteenth Wrangler. Between 1843 and 1851 few events occurred which can be regarded as of moment in the history of the school. Various changes, however, took place in the staff of masters. Dr. Gifford resigned the second-mastership on his appointment to Birmingham in 1847, and was succeeded by the Rev. William Burbury, M.A., fellow of St. John's College, who had graduated as fourth Classic in 1843. Thomas Saunders Evans, who had been an assistant master for six years, also left Shrewsbury in 1847 to take the place of composition master to the sixth form at Rugby, which had become vacant through the death of his old school-fellow, George John Kennedy.<sup>3</sup> Many Salopians and Rugbeians of those days still cherish an affectionate memory of "Tom Evans," with his tall, lithe form, sparkling brown eyes and curly black hair, and reminiscences of his slow,

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Kennedy does not seem, however, to have repeated his experiment of handing over the teaching of the sixth form entirely to any assistant master after Mr. Linwood left.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Scott and Dr. Hessey were appointed to assist Dr. Kennedy in the revision of his original work, and it was published in 1866 as *The Public School Latin Primer*.

<sup>3</sup> *George John Kennedy*, third son of the Rev. Rann Kennedy, was at Shrewsbury School from February, 1828, to April, 1830, and went up to St. John's College, Cambridge, in the following October. In 1831 he gained the first Bell scholarship and the Porson Prize, and in 1832 he was elected Davies university scholar; Senior Classic, 1834; fellow of his college, 1835; Examiner for the Classical Tripos, 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841. Died at Rugby of fever in 1847.



emphatic statements, his keen wit, and those sudden bursts of laughter, of which Archbishop Benson and others have spoken, are easy to evoke. But, much as they liked him, Shrewsbury boys used sometimes to take advantage of his characteristic simple-mindedness. He was by no means a lynx-eyed disciplinarian. In those days it was the custom at repetition lesson for one of the boys, generally a day boy, "to tear out of his own book the leaf containing the lesson and stick it on the front of the master's desk, where it was safe from his eyes and very useful to the form in general." On one occasion the boy whose lot it was to discharge this duty in Evans's form had not brought his book into school, and was obliged to copy the passage out on paper. Whether from carelessness, or out of malice prepense, it so happened that on the written paper two lines of the repetition lesson were omitted. The result, of course, was that boy after boy left out the same two lines. But, if the traditional story is to be credited, the master, though puzzled and irritated by the strange coincidence, never discovered its cause. Of "Tom Evans" too the story is told that once, during the Shrewsbury races, he was left in charge of the sixth form boys while they did a composition paper which Dr. Kennedy had set with the view of keeping them out of harm's way. Very few minutes, however, elapsed before the boys proceeded, one by one, to take up to the master's desk a few lines hastily scribbled, and, saying they could do no more, to leave the room; and it was long before "Tom Evans," who, in his dreamy studies, had become quite oblivious of the races, discovered that he was left alone with one conscientious pupil.<sup>1</sup>

The year 1851 is notable in the annals of the school for the celebration of the tercentenary of its foundation in 1551. The festivities lasted two days, beginning with a public breakfast on Wednesday, April 23rd, at the Lion Hotel. On the same day a performance of Haydn's *Creation* was given at the Music Hall, and in the evening there was a

<sup>1</sup> See COLLINS'S *Public Schools*, and the *Memoir of Professor T. S. Evans, D.D., Canon of Durham, and Professor of Greek and Classical Literature in the University of Durham*, by JOSEPH WAITE, D.D., 1893.



fancy dress ball in the school library, the upper school-room being used for supper. On the Thursday morning a special service was held in St. Mary's Church, when the sermon was preached by Dr. Lonsdale, Bishop of Lichfield, and the prayers were said by the Vicar of the parish, the Rev. William Gorsuch Rowland, who was now in his 82nd year. The Mayor and Corporation attended in state, and the congregation included the school trustees and a large number of old and present Salopians. On the same evening there was a grand dinner in the Music Hall, of which nearly 400 persons partook. The chair was taken, both at the dinner and at the breakfast on the previous day, by Chandos Wren Hoskyns, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> who was at Shrewsbury School 1827-30.

In the course of the year 1851 the school numbers fell very low. Whether for that reason, or because of some difficulty in obtaining a new master, it came about that when Mr. Johnstone, who had been an assistant master for eight years, resigned, no successor was appointed, Mr. Burbury taking the fourth form instead of the fifth, and Dr. Kennedy the sixth and fifth forms together.<sup>2</sup> The next important incident in the history of the school, after the celebration of the tercentenary festival, was the issue of an order by the Court of Chancery on August 1st, 1853, in confirmation of a new scheme for the management and application of its endowments. This scheme had in the main been prepared by the school trustees, and was originally brought by them before Vice-Chancellor Shadwell on May 7th, 1849. Counsel appeared to oppose it on behalf both of St. John's College and of the Head Master, and ultimately the Vice-Chancellor dismissed the petition of the trustees on the ground that it contemplated changes which went far beyond the scope of their trust.

<sup>1</sup> *Chandos Wren Hoskyns*, son of Sir Hungerford Hoskyns, of Harewood House, Herefordshire, Bart. Born 1812. B.A. of Balliol College, Oxford, 1834 (2nd class lit. hum.); called to the Bar from the Inner Temple; became owner of Wroxall Abbey, Warwickshire, through his first wife, Theodosia Anna, daughter and heiress of Christopher Wren, Esq.; M.P. for Hereford 1869-1874.

<sup>2</sup> This arrangement seems to have lasted till August, 1852, when a separate master was again appointed for the fifth form.

But the trustees appealed to Lord Chancellor Cottenham, who heard the case on November 10th, 1849, and on November 12th delivered judgment, reversing the decision of the Vice-Chancellor, and directing that the scheme should be referred to one of the Masters in Chancery for his report. The Master to whom this work was entrusted was Mr. John Elijah Blunt, and somewhat prolonged negotiations took place between the various parties interested in the school before the Master's report was made and the order of the Court was issued promulgating the new scheme. The main objects which the trustees seem to have had in view were to get some ambiguities in the Act of 1798 explained, and to obtain from the Court greater powers in dealing with surplus revenues. By the Act of Parliament in question it was ordained that the surplus revenues of the school should be applied as a rule to the endowment of new exhibitions at Oxford or Cambridge. But this ordinance was subject to a somewhat ambiguous proviso that, after one such exhibition should be founded, the trustees might, if they should think fit, with the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield, increase the value of the existing exhibitions, or augment the stipends of the Vicar of Chirbury and the curates of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, of Astley, and of Clive. For the exhibitions, so to be founded, no scholars of Shrewsbury were to be eligible who did not possess preferential claims,

(1) As legitimate sons of burgesses, born in the town or its suburbs;

(2) As natives of Chirbury;

(3) As natives of Shropshire.

No one could be elected to an exhibition, moreover, who had not been at the school for at least two years immediately preceding the time at which he would have to go to college, were he appointed exhibitioner, or who should not be found on examination to be duly qualified in respect of learning, good morals, and behaviour. Should no election be made to a vacant exhibition, it was further provided that the unapplied income for the year should go to the fund for endowing new exhibitions.

Now it must be remembered that by the year 1848 the school numbers had sunk very low. We cannot wonder then that the trustees should have felt that, for the present at any rate, no new exhibitions were needed, and that it was only equitable that they should be allowed to expend a portion of the annual surplus in helping to provide parsonage houses, and to support elementary schools in those parishes of which the school owned the great tithes. The trustees also considered it highly desirable that, in default of suitable candidates who possessed preferential claims, vacant exhibitions should be thrown open to any boys who had been educated at the school.

At the time the Public School Commissioners were making their inquiry at Shrewsbury, in 1862, some of their number appeared to be much exercised in mind by the fact that the Chancery scheme of 1853 virtually repealed various provisions of the Act of 1798; but the question whether or not the Court of Chancery exceeded its powers in the matter has now become, so far as Shrewsbury is concerned, only one of academic interest. From the time of the issue of the order of the Court on August 1st, 1853, until the passing of the Public Schools Act in 1868, the affairs of the school were administered in accordance with the rules and directions of the scheme. The chief provisions, briefly stated, were as follows:—

(1) *Subjects of Instruction.*

- (a) The liturgy, doctrine, and discipline of the Church of England.
- (b) The Greek, Latin, English, and French languages.
- (c) Ancient and modern history.
- (d) Arithmetic and mathematics.
- (e) Such other modern languages, arts, and sciences as the trustees, with the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield, might think fit.

(2) *Admission of Scholars.*

- (a) No boys to be admitted under the age of eight years, or allowed to remain after the age of twenty.
- (b) None to be admitted who could not, in the opinion of the Head Master, read and write English.



(3) *Fees.*

(a) No admission fees nor subsequent payments for instruction to be required from legitimate sons of burgesses.

(b) Other boys to pay two guineas on admission and fifteen guineas annually for tuition.

(c) Of the total amount of tuition fees received in the year the second master to be paid one-sixth.

(d) The amount of such fees might be increased or diminished from time to time, with the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield, if the trustees should think fit.

(4) *Boarders.*<sup>1</sup>

Permission given to the Head Master and second master, and to other masters, with the consent of the Head Master, to take boarders.

(5) *Library and Prizes.*

The trustees permitted to spend annually—

(a) On the school library a sum not exceeding £70.

(b) On prizes a sum not exceeding £50.

(6) *Admission Register, and Reports on Progress.*

The Head Master to keep a register of scholars, and to send, at least twice a year, a report as to their progress and general conduct to their parents.

(7) *Examinations.*

(a) Boys to be examined once a year by examiners appointed by the Bishop of Lichfield.

(b) The trustees allowed to expend in payment of these examiners a sum not exceeding fifteen guineas.

<sup>1</sup> When the school ordinances were originally framed by Ashton the school-masters had no houses in which boarders could be received, and the only boarders alluded to in the ordinances were those "tabled" with householders in the town. There is no moral doubt that when the masters' houses were completed, early in the seventeenth century, they began to receive boys as boarders. But no distinct mention of the practice has been noticed earlier than the latter half of the eighteenth century. Dr. Kennedy was opposed to the insertion in the scheme of this permissive clause, holding that the right of the masters to take boarders rested upon ancient custom, but yielded to the opinion of the Master in Chancery, who thought it better to have a ready answer to possible cavils on the subject. (See *Report of Public School Commission*, vol. ii. p. 323.)



(8) *Exhibitions.*

(a) All exhibitions to be of the annual value of £50, and to be tenable for four years.

(b) All exhibitions, except the six founded before 1798, which were reserved to St. John's College, to be open to any college at Oxford or Cambridge.

(c) In default of preferential candidates found eligible on examination, the trustees allowed to elect other boys educated at the school to vacant exhibitions.

(9) *Scale of Annual Payments to be made to the Incumbents of School Livings.*

(a) St. Mary's, Shrewsbury	£300.
(b) Chirbury . . . . .	£200, and £80 for a curate.
(c) Clive . . . . .	£90.
(d) Astley . . . . .	£70.

Permission, however, was given to the trustees, with the consent of the Bishop of Lichfield, to increase or diminish from time to time these stipends. They were also allowed to expend annually in support of the parochial schools—

(e) In each of the parishes of St. Mary, St. Chad, and Chirbury, a sum not exceeding £5.

(f) In each of the parishes of Clive and Astley, a sum not exceeding £5.

(10) *Playground.*

The trustees were, in addition, empowered to pay such rent as they might find necessary in order to procure a suitable playground for the boys.

On July 18th, 1861, a royal commission was issued to inquire "into the nature and application of the endowments, funds, and revenues of certain specified colleges, schools, and foundations," the systems under which they were managed, and "the course of studies respectively pursued therein." The institutions specified in her Majesty's commission were Eton College, Winchester College, the College of St. Peter, Westminster, the Charterhouse School, St. Paul's School, Merchant Taylors' School, Harrow, Rugby, and Shrewsbury, and the Commissioners appointed were the Earl of Clarendon,

Lord Lyttelton, the Hon. E. T. B. Twisleton, Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart., the Rev. William Hepworth Thompson, M.A., and Henry Halford Vaughan, Esq., M.A.; Montague Bernard, Esq., B.C.L., being nominated as secretary. On the 22nd and 23rd of May, 1862, the Commissioners inspected the school buildings at Shrewsbury, and examined orally Dr. Kennedy and some of the other masters, the trustees and the Bailiff of the school, the trustees of Millington's Charity, and a deputation of the Corporation of Shrewsbury.

Two years later the report of the Commissioners, commonly called the Public School Commissioners, was published as a parliamentary blue-book. Much of this report dealt, as was natural, with matters of common interest to all the schools included in the inquiry, such as the relations of the Head Master to the Governing Body, the constitution of that body, the subjects of instruction in the various schools and the stimulants to industry of which they made use, the monitorial system, the encouragement given to games, the fagging question, the want of good preparatory schools, and the inconvenience arising from the varying dates of the holidays, and many recommendations were made of general application. But in addition to their general report the Commissioners made a separate report on each of the nine schools, and many of their specific recommendations, though based on the same general principles, vary in accordance with the varying circumstances, history, and traditions of the different schools. It will be convenient to note briefly the most important of the recommendations which were made in the case of Shrewsbury School.

These were :—

1. That the annual tuition fee should be raised from fifteen to twenty guineas.
2. That all local preferential claims to exhibitions and scholarships should be abolished.
3. That the right of gratis education, which had been enjoyed since 1798 by the sons of burgesses, should be at once limited to forty boys, and, after twenty-five years, should be entirely abolished.

4. That all exhibitions and scholarships, to which Shrewsbury scholars were eligible, either primarily or in default of preferential candidates, and the emoluments of which were supplied from funds not held in trust by or for any particular college, should be available for any college at Oxford or Cambridge.<sup>1</sup>

5. That there should be a temporary suspension of some of the school exhibitions in order to meet the demand for new buildings.

6. That any master should, with the consent of the Governing Body, be at liberty to open a boarding-house.

Rumours as to a coming favourable report of the Public School Commissioners had an immediate effect on the fortunes of Shrewsbury School. In the course of the year 1863 the numbers rose from about 130 to nearly 200, and it became necessary to increase the number of forms. The old fourth form, which had now for a long time been taught in the honour-boards room where Dr. Butler had taken the sixth,<sup>2</sup> was converted into *the shell*, and a new fourth form was introduced between *the shell* and *the lower school*. In 1864 a most beneficial reform was effected in the chapel services. A harmonium was introduced, a choir was formed among the

<sup>1</sup> A special recommendation, however, was made in the case of the Millington scholarships at Magdalene College, Cambridge. Dr. Millington, who was a native of Shrewsbury and was educated at the school, had proceeded afterwards to Magdalene College. Wishing to benefit both school and college he devised by his will, dated February 27th, 1724, certain lands in Montgomeryshire for the endowment of scholarships at Magdalene, to be held by students who had been educated at Shrewsbury. After four scholarships of the annual value of £63 each had been founded the Millington trustees were directed by an order in Chancery to employ the accumulations of surplus in future for the endowment of fellowships, each fellowship to be equal in value to two scholarships. In pursuance of this order one such fellowship was founded in 1817 and another in 1856. But in 1860 both fellowships were alienated from Shrewsbury and appropriated to the sole benefit of the college by her Majesty's University Commissioners. Strong representations on the subject were made to the Public School Commissioners by all the Millington trustees except the master of Magdalene, and, in compliance with their desire, the Commissioners recommended that, as a matter of common fairness, Shrewsbury boys should be allowed to hold the Millington scholarships at any college in Oxford or Cambridge. The result of this recommendation, which was subsequently made effective by the Public School Act, is that the Millington Trust Fund is now employed, half for the exclusive benefit of the college, and the other half for that of the school.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Kennedy moved the sixth form into the upper school-room about the end of the year 1848.



boys and carefully trained by an efficient organist, and the Sunday services from that time became, as a rule, more or less choral. Hitherto there had been no music at all in chapel. Once before Dr. Kennedy had tried the experiment of providing instruction in choral music on the Hullah system, and this was taken up zealously by the boys for a time. But their zeal soon died out, and the choral music was given up after a year. Now, however, the establishment of the chapel choir was lasting in its good effects. Not only were the services made more interesting and attractive to the boys, but the choir did much to cultivate a taste for music throughout the school. Both in the Doctor's hall and in Jee's hall the boys began to get up occasional concerts and readings, to which, after a time, the masters and their families were invited. And so matters progressed till, on May 1st in the following year, a most successful concert was given in the Music Hall before a crowded audience. From that time to the present the school concert has been an annual and most popular institution.

In 1868 an Act of Parliament was passed, commonly known as the Public Schools Act, which embodied most of the recommendations of the Commissioners, and among other enactments constituted new governing bodies of a representative character, to which extensive powers of framing new statutes for the management and government of their respective schools were given. But before the passing of this Act Dr. Kennedy had ceased to be Head Master of Shrewsbury. Towards the end of 1865 he signified his intention of resigning at the following Midsummer. Old Salopian committees were immediately formed, both at Shrewsbury and at Cambridge, to consider the steps which should be taken to commemorate worthily Dr. Kennedy's long and most remarkable career at Shrewsbury. Unfortunately, as it seemed at the time, much difference of opinion manifested itself among his old pupils as to the form the memorial should take, some advocating the foundation of a professorship at Cambridge which should bear Dr. Kennedy's name, and others holding strongly that the



memorial ought to be not only personal to Dr. Kennedy, but directly connected with Shrewsbury, the place where his work had been done and his reputation acquired. Ultimately, though not till after considerable delay, both views were carried out, and the Latin professorship at Cambridge and the chancel of the present school chapel at Shrewsbury are permanent memorials of the affection and gratitude felt for their old master by successive generations of Shrewsbury men.<sup>1</sup>

Early in 1866 the Rectory of West Felton in Shropshire became vacant by the death of the Rev. William Burbury, Dr. Kennedy's son-in-law, who had been from 1847 to 1861 the second master at Shrewsbury School, and Dr. Kennedy was presented to the living. But he was not destined to have any real experience of parochial work. A few months after he had left Shrewsbury the Regius professorship of Greek at Cambridge was vacated by the resignation of the Rev. W. H. Thompson, who, on the death of Dr. Whewell in 1866, had been appointed master of Trinity College. At the urgent request of some of the most distinguished of his old pupils Dr. Kennedy consented to offer himself as a candidate for the professorship. It is a remarkable fact that all the other candidates for the vacant post, the Rev. Richard Shilleto, the Rev. E. M. Cope, and the Rev. Arthur Holmes, were, like himself, Shrewsbury men. When the day of election came the votes of the members of the Council of the Senate, in whom the appointment was vested, were equally divided between Dr. Kennedy and Mr. Cope. From the Council the right of election passed, as was provided by the university statutes, to the Vice-Chancellor and the master of Trinity College, and, when they also differed, to the Duke

<sup>1</sup> The Latin professorship was founded in 1869. But it does not, as was originally proposed, bear Dr. Kennedy's name. The idea was given up at the special request of the Greek Professor, who added £500 to the sum already subscribed, on that understanding. The story of the origin of the Latin professorship at Cambridge is rendered more interesting still to Salopians by the fact that the two great scholars who have successively occupied the chair, the Rev. H. A. J. Munro and the Rev. J. E. B. Mayor, were both educated at Shrewsbury School.

of Devonshire, as Chancellor of the university, who appointed Dr. Kennedy. Henceforth, until his death in 1889, Professor Kennedy resided either at his Cambridge house, the Elms, or in the Cathedral Close at Ely, where, as Regius Professor of Greek, he held a canonry *ex officio*. As Canon of Ely Dr. Kennedy represented for some time the Cathedral Chapter in Convocation. He was greatly appreciated at Ely, and did much, when in residence there, to break down the social barriers which had long separated the Close from the rest of the town. In 1870 the Professor was elected on the Council of the Senate at Cambridge, and in 1873 he was appointed Lady Margaret's Preacher.<sup>1</sup>

From the time of the foundation of Girton and Newnham Colleges Dr. Kennedy took a warm interest in the efforts which have been made during the last twenty-five years for the improvement of women's education, and in February, 1881, he made an impressive speech in favour of throwing open the Cambridge Tripos examinations to students of those colleges. From 1870 to 1880 he took part in the deliberations of the Committee for revising the Authorised Version of the New Testament, and was deeply interested in the work. Some of his own personal views on the subject may be found in his lectures on the Revised Version of the New Testament, which were given at Ely, and published in 1882. Two years later Dr. Kennedy was elected an honorary fellow of St. John's College, and by this compliment, as well as by that paid him in 1885, when the Senate of the university of Dublin conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D., the Professor was greatly gratified. In 1885, under the operation of the new statutes relating to professorships, he was elected once more, after an interval of more than fifty years, an ordinary fellow of his old college. During the last few years of his life Dr. Kennedy became subject to rather frequent bronchial attacks, and from the effects of one of these attacks he died on April 6th, 1889. To

<sup>1</sup> This was not the first occasion on which Dr. Kennedy occupied the university pulpit. He had been a Select Preacher in December, 1860, and January, 1861.

the last he retained his mental vigour unimpaired, and only a few hours before his death he was occupied in correcting the proof sheets of a new edition of the *Sabrinæ Corolla*. But his pen had never been allowed to grow rusty. In 1871 he published the *Public School Latin Grammar*, which was intended to supplement the *Public School Latin Primer*. In 1888 the *Primer* was thoroughly revised by Dr. Kennedy, with the able assistance of Mr. G. H. Hallam, an assistant master at Harrow, and Mr. T. E. Page, an assistant master at the Charterhouse, both of whom had been at Shrewsbury School, and had subsequently gained high classical distinctions at Cambridge. Editions of the *Agamemnon* and the *Œdipus Tyrannus*, with metrical versions and notes, and a translation of *The Birds* of Aristophanes into English verse, with an introduction and notes, were also published by Dr. Kennedy while he was Greek Professor. In many respects the most interesting and characteristic of his works is a collection of verse translations, including some fugitive pieces of his father's, which appeared in 1877 under the title of *Between Whiles*, and of which a second edition, with some autobiographical details, was published in 1882. A portrait of Dr. Kennedy, painted by Mr. W. W. Oules, R.A., hangs in the hall of St. John's College, Cambridge.<sup>1</sup> To those who with some justice regard Benjamin Hall Kennedy as the most brilliant classical teacher of his time, it would seem a serious omission to bring this record of his labours at Shrewsbury to an end without some attempt to describe his methods of instruction, and briefly to indicate the chief causes which, in the opinion of his most distinguished pupils, made him so successful. The leading idea which seems to have animated Dr. Butler's whole plan of dealing with boys in intellectual as well as in moral matters was his desire to make them *self-reliant*. The præpostorial system, of which he was in all essential respects the originator; his persistence in urging the importance of *private work* as distinguished from work prepared for school or done under his supervision, and the

<sup>1</sup> A replica of this portrait, painted under the superintendence of Mr. Oules, is a cherished possession of the school authorities.



large amount of liberty which boys enjoyed out of school hours, are all illustrations of Dr. Butler's anxiety to promote *self-reliance* among them. But it is to be feared that in the closing years of his mastership the principle of non-interference was carried much too far. Between *locking-up* and bed time in Dr. Butler's houses the boys rarely saw a master. In other respects too they were, as one of Butler's later pupils phrases it, "left very much to themselves." Certainly Dr. Kennedy entered in 1836 on a heritage of indiscipline, which made his work very difficult for many years.

That the same exaggerated system of non-interference had a bad effect on intellectual progress also Mr. Hugh A. J. Munro has very emphatically stated. He declares that when Dr. Kennedy began work in the autumn of 1836 Greek scholarship had sunk to a very low ebb at Shrewsbury, and he attributes the falling off to the fact that "boys were left very much to their own lights."<sup>1</sup>

Now, although Dr. Kennedy did undoubtedly entertain different ideas from Dr. Butler as to the desirability of leaving boys so much to themselves in moral and religious matters, consciously or unconsciously he seems, like his predecessor, to have aimed at making his pupils *self-reliant* in intellectual matters. But his efforts in this latter respect do not seem to have produced any ill effects. From the first he was most successful as a teacher, although his school lessons were almost always short, and the boys' exercises were sometimes kept for three weeks, and when returned were, as a rule, very slightly corrected. It was neither by long lessons nor by laboured correction of their exercises that Dr. Kennedy made Shrewsbury boys such excellent scholars and so skilful in verse and prose composition. But although his translation lessons were short, they were marvellously effective.

Bishop Fraser declared that in three months' time Kennedy taught him to read for himself.<sup>2</sup> But Professor H. A. J.

<sup>1</sup> See Professor Munro's Memoir of E. M. Cope in the posthumous edition of his school-fellow's *Rhetoric* of Aristotle, edited in 1877 by Mr. J. E. Sandys.

<sup>2</sup> See article by Professor J. E. B. Mayor on the late Professor B. H. Kennedy in the *Classical Review* for May, 1889. One of Dr. Kennedy's favourite *dicta*



Munro's testimony is the strongest. He speaks of the change effected by the new Head Master in 1836 in a few months' time as marvellous. All of the boys under his immediate instruction who were "able and willing to learn" soon felt that he had given them "such an insight into the Greek language, and such a hold of its true principles and idiom, as to render further progress easy and agreeable." And this great and immediate success the Professor ascribes partly to "knowledge" and partly to "method united with kindness and enthusiasm."

But it was not only in his Greek lessons that Kennedy's teaching was so effective. To everything he taught he managed to give "life and meaning and interest."<sup>1</sup> His "strues," as Shrewsbury boys call them, were always fascinating, partly from the wealth of illustration which he drew from local occurrences and passing events, or from the profound historical knowledge with which his mind was stored,<sup>2</sup> and partly from the effect due to dramatic instincts which seemed absolutely to carry him away, when he was translating, to the theatre, the law courts, or the battlefield.

One of his pupils, in recalling memories of the pleasure sixth form boys used to take in Kennedy's translations, writes that it is difficult to say which gave them the greatest delight as the words poured forth from his lips, the Homeric roll, the pathos of Æschylus, the music of the *Odes* of Horace, or the fun of Aristophanes.<sup>3</sup>

was that a boy who knows Thucydides and Sophocles may say he knows Greek. Aristotle was never done in form, but the Head Master occasionally read it with some of the abler boys as "extra work."

<sup>1</sup> See the Dedication in Munro's edition of *Lucretius*.

<sup>2</sup> Professor T. S. Evans, who was much Dr. Kennedy's junior as a Shrewsbury boy, but was for six years an assistant master under him, says that he never knew anyone who surpassed him in "width of knowledge and variety of information, or in power of speech, or in tenacity and exactitude of memory." (See *Memoir of T. S. Evans, D.D.*, by JOSEPH WAITE.)

<sup>3</sup> It was Dr. Kennedy's custom at the end of each translation lesson to construe through the whole himself, giving "an extempore version of it, not elaborately finished, but pointed and vigorous and sonorous." One of the most distinguished among the pupils of his last five years at Shrewsbury has called it "an education in itself to watch this version coming to the birth and gradually developing itself." (See *Journal of Education* for May, 1889.)

First and foremost, however, among the causes of Kennedy's success must be reckoned his intense love of classical literature, a love which "communicated itself by some mental magnetism to the souls of his pupils"; for the love of the work we have to do is undoubtedly, as the eminent scholar whom we have just quoted has phrased it, "the healthiest and most lasting stimulus to exertion."<sup>1</sup> And so "the love of classical learning" became, as another distinguished Shrewsbury scholar has said, "the pervading characteristic of the school."<sup>2</sup>

How startling too it must seem at first to those who are not familiar with the inner history of Shrewsbury School in Kennedy's time, but know in a general kind of way what an extraordinary number of university prizes his pupils carried off, to learn how little apparent attention was paid by the Head Master to the exercises of the sixth form, how rarely he looked over an exercise in the presence of the boy who had written it, and how few were his corrections! Practically the chief if not the only direct assistance Kennedy used to give boys in the matter of composition took the form of advice, "Study your *Sabrinæ Corolla* and read over some original passage before you begin your composition." And yet, somehow or other, Dr. Kennedy managed to imbue the minds of the boys with the keenest desire that their composition exercises should gain his approbation. However long might be the delay in the return of the exercises they were most eagerly scanned, when they made their appearance, for the marks of the Head Master's approval or disapproval. Doubtless the *extras* which were gained for the whole form by five excellent exercises in the same week were some stimulus to exertion. Kennedy's "criticisms" too, when given, were emphatic. An old pupil will not soon forget the tone of ineffable scorn in which he was told that some verses he had written on the subject of Tea were "ditch-water."<sup>3</sup>

But the real explanation of what seems something like

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. W. G. Clark's speech at the Tercentenary Festival of 1851.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Robert Burn in a letter to the author.

<sup>3</sup> See article by Mr. G. H. Hallam in the *Journal of Education* for May, 1889.

a phenomenal state of things must be sought in that *magnetic influence* which, as Mr. W. G. Clark and others have said, Kennedy appears to have exercised over the minds of the elder boys in intellectual matters. One of his old pupils calls him "a splendid master whom the sixth form *adored*"; and certainly much of the *magnetic influence* in question was due to the affection which so many of his pupils felt for him. And so it came about that the impression Kennedy's manner often produced on the boys, that it positively gave him physical pain when they wrote bad or careless exercises, and his manifest pleasure in good work, a pleasure which he often evidenced by striding up and down the room, exercise in hand, exclaiming "Wonderful, wonderful!" had really much effect in stimulating his pupils to greater efforts to please him. But their efforts, we must not forget, could never have led to such results had it not been for the exquisite models of verse composition which were always accessible to them in the *Sabrina* *Corolla*, many of the most striking of which, as Dr. Kennedy would have been the first to remind us, came from the pens of Butler's pupils, Marmaduke Lawson, James Hildyard, Robert Scott, Richard Shilleto, Thomas Saunders Evans, and B. H. Kennedy himself. So Butler's good work has been always producing its effect at Shrewsbury, not only through the system he established, but through the brilliant compositions which were the result of his scholarly training. Nor would it be fair to omit all mention in this connection of the succession of able men by whom Dr. Kennedy was assisted in carrying on the work of the school—T. F. Henney, J. I. Welldon, William Linwood, T. S. Evans, E. H. Gifford, and others. Of Dr. Gifford one distinguished Old Salopian has said, "My first love of classics was started in the fifth form when Gifford came to be master. He first showed me the beauty of classics when he translated Thucydides to the form. . . . The classical lessons of Kennedy and Evans and Gifford are things to be remembered with delight." The same authority,<sup>1</sup> it should be added, attributes much im-

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Robert Burn,



portance to the Latin essay which was frequently required from the sixth form and the daily repetition lessons from the best Greek and Latin writers, both in verse and prose.

Dr. Kennedy had a singularly powerful voice, and was often an object of terror to small boys until they discovered what a tender-hearted man he really was. Old Salopians who were in the lower forms in 1840-1842, at the time when the Head Master surrendered the teaching of the sixth form to his brilliant assistant, Mr. Linwood, and took sometimes one and sometimes another of the remaining forms, still remember the fear and trembling which seized them when their form was summoned into Top Schools that the Head Master might hear them their lesson. But, though impetuous in manner and impulsive in act, Kennedy had, as we have said, a most tender heart, and little children found him out at once. Sometimes, and perhaps it might be said frequently, his impulsive temperament led him to inflict punishments which, if not altogether undeserved, were out of proportion to the offence. But such punishments were practically never carried out.

The Head Master was the most generous of men, and never allowed false pride to prevent him from acknowledging himself to be in the wrong and apologising for his error. In his manner he was uniformly courteous. He had a way too, in his social intercourse with the elder boys, of treating them as equals and asking their opinion or advice, which not unnaturally exercised a great charm over them. As one of them once said to the writer, "This probably went to our hearts more than anything else." Certainly our public schools have known few Head Masters who have cast such a spell over their pupils as Kennedy. Everyone has a score of amusing stories to tell about him, but all speak of him in tones of the warmest affection. It is impossible for anyone who has known him intimately ever to forget him, he was so absolutely unlike anyone else. The very *uniqueness* of his character was no doubt in some measure the cause of his attractive influence. One of his most distinguished colleagues and pupils has said of Kennedy,



"It is no easy task to describe the union of enthusiasm and generosity, almost sublime, with a childlike simplicity, at which it was impossible sometimes not to smile."<sup>1</sup>

But it is this childlike simplicity of mind which was in reality the keynote of his life, explaining, as it undoubtedly does, much that would be otherwise inexplicable in a man of such generous disposition and such marvellous intellectual power. His inability to keep a secret, and the difficulty he sometimes seemed to find in seeing that there may be two sides to a question and that a man may be partly right and partly wrong, his impulsive acts, his impetuosity, and his impatience in literary controversy were all the direct outcome of the childlike simple-mindedness that remained with him to the end of his life. For household management Dr. Kennedy had no taste. But, like Dr. Butler, he was happy in having a wife who, throughout his long head-mastership, admirably discharged the domestic duties connected with the care of two large boarding-houses, and enabled him to show to friends and colleagues and boys that genial hospitality which it always delighted him to exercise. Mrs. Kennedy is no longer with us, but there are many Old Salopians who gratefully remember her "calm and gentle spirit" and the "kind and affectionate sympathy" with which she was "ever ready to soothe the troubles and share the joys of boyhood."<sup>2</sup> The warm interest too which Mrs. Kennedy, and indeed every member of the Head Master's family, took in all the school games and amusements did much to increase the enjoyment they gave to the boys at the time, and to add to the store of happy recollections which so many Salopians of Kennedy's days are wont to associate with their school life at Shrewsbury.

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. E. H. Gifford, D.D.

<sup>2</sup> See speeches of Mr. W. G. Clark and Dr. E. H. Gifford at the Tercentenary Festival in 1851.





REV. H. W. MOSS

## CHAPTER XVII.

Henry Whitehead Moss, B.A., appointed Head Master in 1866—Public Schools Act of 1868—New Governing Body elected in 1871—Removal of the School to Kingsland in 1882—School Life on Kingsland.

WHEN Dr. Kennedy resigned in 1866 the master and fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, were again able to find a Shrewsbury scholar of great distinction to appoint to the head-mastership without going outside the walls of their own college, although he did not bring to his work at Shrewsbury the scholastic experience which his predecessor had gained both at Shrewsbury and Harrow before he succeeded Dr. Butler. Mr. Henry Whitehead Moss, the new Head Master, had been educated during the early years of his boyhood at Lincoln Grammar School, but he subsequently migrated to Shrewsbury, where he had for three years the benefit of Dr. Kennedy's brilliant and effective teaching. In October, 1860, he proceeded in due course to St. John's College. His university career fulfilled the promise of his school-days. While an undergraduate he was awarded the Porson Prize for Greek verse on three separate occasions. He also carried off a Browne Medal in 1863 for Greek elegiacs. In 1862 Mr. Moss was elected Craven university scholar, and in 1864 he graduated as Senior Classic. In the course of the same year he became a fellow and lecturer of his college.

Little need be said of the fifteen years which elapsed between the appointment of the new Head Master and the removal of the school to its present home on Kingsland. Almost every year that passed brought with it in the form of classical distinctions gained by Shrewsbury men at Oxford



and Cambridge additional evidence that the high standard of classical scholarship which the school had attained under Butler and Kennedy was not likely to deteriorate under their successor. Of the Shrewsbury men who went up to Cambridge between 1867 and 1882 twenty-two gained a first class in the Classical Tripos, two of whom were Senior Classics, and three were Chancellor's Medallists. During these same fifteen years Shrewsbury carried off ten of the principal university scholarships, one Bell scholarship, three Powis Medals, eighteen Browne Medals, and nine Porson Prizes. In addition to these classical distinctions Shrewsbury men obtained two first classes in the Law Tripos, one in the Theological Tripos, and one in the Natural Sciences Tripos, while two of their number were awarded the Chancellor's Medal for an English poem, and another won the Maitland Prize for an English essay. Although Shrewsbury successes have always been less marked at Oxford than at Cambridge, they included at the former university during the fifteen years in question three university scholarships, twelve first classes in Classical Moderations, and four in the final Classical School, one first class in modern history, and the Chancellor's Prize for Latin verse. Three years elapsed after the passing of the Public School Act of 1868 before the members of the new Governing Body of Shrewsbury School, for the constitution of which provision was made in the Act, were duly elected by the persons or the corporate bodies to whom this duty was entrusted.

The following tables give the names of the Governors originally elected in 1871, as well as of those who were in office in January, 1898:—

#### GOVERNING BODY OF SHREWSBURY SCHOOL.

1871.	NOMINATORS.	1898.
Rev. W. H. Bateson, D.D., Master of St. John's College, Cambridge	<i>Ex-officio</i>	Rev. Charles Taylor, D.D., Master of St. John's College, Cambridge.
John Loxdale, Esq. Henry Keate, Esq.		George Butler Lloyd, Esq. E. Cresswell Peele, Esq.
John Bather, Esq.	The Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire	Stanley Leighton, Esq., M.P.

1871.	NOMINATORS.	1898.
The Right Rev. James Fraser, D.D., Lord Bishop of Manchester	The Hebdomadal Council of the University of Oxford	J. E. L. Shadwell, Esq., M.A., formerly Student of Christ Church.
Rev. B. H. Kennedy, D.D., Regius Professor of Greek	The Council of the Senate of the University of Cambridge.	Edwin Charles Clark, Esq., M.A., LL.D., Regius Professor of Civil Law.
Sir James Paget, Bart., F.R.S.	The President and Fellows of the Royal Society	P. H. Pye Smith, Esq., M.D., F.R.S.
The Right Hon. George Osborne Morgan, M.P.	The Lord Chief Justice of England	Rev. J. G. Lonsdale, M.A., Canon of Lichfield.
Rev. James Cartmell, D.D., Master of Christ's College, Cambridge	The Head Master and Assistant Masters of the School	Rev. J. F. Bright, D.D., Master of University College, Oxford.
Rev. Benjamin Jowett, M.A., Master of Balliol College, and Regius Professor of Greek	Co-opted by the Governing Body	The Right Hon. Sir J. T. Hibbert, K.C.B.
J. T. Hibbert, Esq., M.P.		The Right Hon. Lord Thring, K.C.B.
Rev. W. G. Humphry, B.D.		The Very Rev. Francis Paget, D.D., Dean of Christ Church.

One of the first questions which the new Governing Body had to decide was whether it was practicable and advisable to acquire additional property in the neighbourhood of the site which the school had occupied for more than three hundred years, and to provide there that increased and improved accommodation which in the opinion of her Majesty's Commissioners was so greatly needed, or whether it would be better to use the power given by the Public School Act of 1868 to remove the school to some suitable site not exceeding three miles in distance, measured in a straight line from the market place of Shrewsbury.

The municipal authorities and many residents in the town, besides a large number of Old Salopians, were from the first strongly opposed to the idea of any change of site. The objections raised by Old Salopians to the removal of the school were founded, of course, on a sentimental attachment to their old haunts, while the townsmen not unnaturally feared that if the school-buildings were moved into the country it would become difficult and perhaps impossible for their sons to attend school as day boys. But to the

Governing Body the great expense which would have necessarily attended the purchase of sufficient land for their purpose in the neighbourhood of the old school-buildings, the impossibility of providing suitable playgrounds within reasonable distance, and the manifest objections which could not but be felt by all who knew anything of school life to the retention of the boarding-houses within the town at all, if Shrewsbury were again to hold its own numerically among the great schools of England, seemed decisive arguments in favour of removal. The site originally selected for the erection of the new school-buildings was at Coton Hill, and there is no doubt that this choice offered many advantages. The daily life of the boys would still be passed amid scenes which had been familiar to Shrewsbury scholars from the time of the foundation of the school—the boarding-houses would be quite outside the town and only accessible from it by one road, and yet the journey which day boys would have to make to school for each lesson would hardly be lengthened by ten minutes. But as soon as the intentions of the Governing Body became publicly known an energetic opposition was set on foot, which was carried on mainly through the instrumentality of public meetings, pamphlets, and newspaper articles. A memorial on the subject was also signed by no less than 600 Old Salopians, and was presented to the Governing Body in December, 1873, by the Rt. Hon. H. C. Raikes. A similar address, in opposition to the proposed removal, emanating from a meeting of townsmen, held in the previous October under the presidency of the Mayor, was also presented at the same time by the Earl of Powis.

One plausible objection to the Coton Hill site was urged by the townsmen of Shrewsbury. They represented that in time of floods Coton Hill would practically be isolated, so far as day boys were concerned. Now such a state of things, though by no means common, did in former days sometimes exist in Shrewsbury, and happily the Governing Body was ultimately able to procure a site against which this objection could not be urged, and so excellent in every respect that much of the town opposition gradually subsided.



NEW SCHOOL BUILDING FROM THE SCHOOL FERRY





On the Hereford side of the Severn, immediately opposite to the beautiful grounds known as "the Quarry," where Shrewsbury boys used to act their annual Whitsuntide Play in Ashton's days, there is a considerable expanse of table-land known as Kingsland, some of which formerly belonged to private owners, though the greater part was the property either of the Corporation or of the united parishes of Shrewsbury. Twenty-seven acres of this land were purchased by the Governing Body in the summer of 1875, and upon this singularly beautiful site the present school-buildings were ultimately erected. But before the arrangements for the purchase of Kingsland could be carried out it was necessary to obtain the abolition of the ancient show,<sup>1</sup> which had been held there every year for more than three centuries. Interesting as this curious old pageant was to antiquarians as an illustration of the influence and importance of the old trading companies of Shrewsbury, it had been for many years an excuse for dissipation and a fertile source of trouble

<sup>1</sup> The Shrewsbury Show undoubtedly took its origin from the religious observance of the Feast of Corpus Christi by the Trade Companies of Shrewsbury. It was for many years the custom on that day for all the incorporated companies, bearing their various colours and devices, to accompany the Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Council, in solemn procession, to Weeping Cross, a place about two miles distant from the town. After duly bewailing their sins at Weeping Cross the members of the companies reformed their procession, and the whole party returned to St. Chad's Church, where High Mass was celebrated. Three days in the following week were always dedicated by the companies to recreation. After the Reformation, when the festival of Corpus Christi ceased to be observed, the old procession was kept up at the same season of the year, although it no longer possessed any religious signification. About 1591 it became the custom for the procession to go to Kingsland, where a small plot of land was allotted to each company. These plots were enclosed by a hedge and were called arbours, and most of them were provided with a covered building of wood. In the course of the seventeenth century buildings of a more substantial character were erected by some of the companies. The Shoemakers' Arbour, which was the largest, was put up in 1679. In modern days the procession consisted in part of men and women on cars, or on horseback, dressed up to represent Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, Bishop Blasius, St. Catharine, St. Crispin, St. Crispianus, Rubens the painter, Vulcan, and various other characters, historical or mythical, who, for one reason or another, were regarded as figurative of the various trades. It used to be a great delight to the boys to seat themselves on the wall of School Gardens as the procession was passing down Castle Gates and fire at the stately personages as they went by with pea-shooters, an amusement that generally earned for them a liberal allowance of detentions.

and mischief, and most of the respectable inhabitants of the town gladly welcomed the day when an order in Council was issued which put a final end to the show.

Some years elapsed after the purchase of the property before suitable boarding-houses and class-rooms could be provided and other necessary arrangements made for the accommodation of the masters and boys on Kingsland, and it was not till July 28th, 1882, that the new school-buildings were formally opened. Old Salopians mustered in great numbers for the opening ceremonies.

The proceedings commenced with the celebration of Holy Communion in St. Mary's Church at 8 a.m., followed by morning service at 11.30, with a sermon from the Bishop of Manchester. The offertory at this service, which was devoted to the fund for building a school chapel on Kingsland, amounted to £246. Shortly afterwards there was a general move to the Corn Exchange, where guests, masters, and boys were entertained at luncheon by the Governing Body to the number of 500. The opening ceremony took place in a large tent which had been put up on Kingsland for the purpose, and which had a raised platform at one end for the accommodation of the Governing Body and the principal guests. The chair was taken by the Head Master, and the school-buildings were formally declared open by Lord Cranbrook in a most interesting speech, which consisted chiefly of reminiscences of his school life. After this the prizes were given away, and other speeches followed. Among the speakers were the Bishops of Lichfield, Hereford, Manchester, and Bedford, Lord Chief Justice May, Sir James Paget, Lord Powis, Professor E. C. Clark, the High Sheriff of Shropshire, and the Deputy-Mayor of Shrewsbury. In the evening the day's festivities were brought to a close by the annual school concert, which took place as usual in the Music Hall. Two years later the school chapel was completed and ready for use.

It has been already mentioned that in December, 1865, a Committee was appointed with the view of erecting a new chapel as a memorial of Dr. Kennedy's head-mastership. A



T. A. BENTLEY  
MODERN LANGUAGE MASTER 1842-1893





sum of £3000 was raised for the purpose, but in consequence of the declared intention of the Governing Body to remove the school from its old site the project necessarily remained in abeyance till 1878. In that year Dr. Bateson, who was one of the trustees of the fund, as well as the Chairman of the Governing Body, called a meeting of the Committee, at which it was resolved that the whole sum subscribed for the new chapel should be placed at the disposal of the Governing Body on condition of its being applied to the erection of some distinctive portion, such as the chancel or an apse, of the new chapel which it was proposed to build on Kingsland, as a memorial of Dr. Kennedy's head-mastership.

This chapel was ultimately completed and dedicated in 1883. It was built from the designs of Mr. A. W. Blomfield,<sup>1</sup> and undoubtedly possesses considerable architectural merit. It is capable of accommodating upwards of 500 persons. The memorial part of it consists of the chancel, chancel arch, and north and south transepts, and on the step leading from the nave to the chancel a brass plate has been placed, with an inscription recording the fact that the eastern portions of the chapel were erected to commemorate the respect and affection entertained for Dr. Kennedy by his school-fellows, his colleagues, his pupils, and his friends. The whole cost of the chapel, including the Kennedy memorial, amounted to between £8000 and £9000, and nearly the whole of this sum was contributed by Old Salopians.

During the last few years several of the windows have been filled with excellent stained glass, most of which is from the designs of Mr. Kempe. Three of these windows on the southern side of the nave are dedicated respectively to the memory of Bishop Fraser, Archdeacon T. B. Lloyd, late Chairman of the Governing Body, and Mr. T. A. Bentley, French master for more than fifty years. The western window commemorates the Rev. John Rigg, B.D., who was second master from 1861 to 1872. In the south transept four small stained-glass windows have been placed in memory of boys who have died at school. Brass plates

<sup>1</sup> Now Sir Arthur Blomfield.

beneath record their names and the dates of their birth and death. There is also a memorial window to a boy who died at school on the north side of the chancel. The east window and the other windows in the chancel, as well as those on the south side of the nave, are by Mr. Kempe. The remainder of the stained glass is the work of Burlison and Grills. The walls beneath the windows on both sides of the nave have been recently covered with oak panelling of singularly beautiful design, for which the school is also indebted to Mr. Kempe's artistic skill. One effect of this recent improvement has been to bring into somewhat disagreeable contrast the boys' seats in the nave, which are of pitchpine; but this incongruity will, it is to be hoped, speedily be remedied.

Until the new chapel was completed the boarders continued to attend service on Sundays at St. Mary's Church. On January 27th, 1884, they assembled there for the last time, when a farewell sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. T. B. Lloyd, from the text, "For my brethren and companions' sake I will now say 'peace be within thee.'" The first sermon in the new chapel was preached by Bishop Walsham How.

At the time the Kingsland property was acquired by the Governing Body there stood on the brow of the hill, facing the quarry, a large building, originally erected in 1765, at a cost of more than £12,000, as a "Foundling Hospital" in connection with the well-known institution in London. The hospital was closed in 1774 for want of sufficient funds for its support, and the building was used for a time during the American War for the confinement of Dutch prisoners. In 1784 it was purchased by the united parishes of Shrewsbury for the shelter of the poor, and for this purpose it was used under the name of "the house of industry" until the workhouse was built at Cross Houses. After much consideration, and a favourable report from Mr. A. W. Blomfield as to the stability of the building and the excellence of the materials of which it was constructed, it was determined to remodel the interior, so as to make it available for general school



THE NEW SCHOOL CHAPEL





purposes. The chief room in the building, as it is now arranged, is about 120 feet long. It is divided into three parts by movable partitions, the largest of which is known popularly in the school as "Top Schools," and is used for the same purposes of "preparation" as "Top Schools"<sup>1</sup> was in former times in the old school-buildings. Besides an ample supply of class-rooms, in which are included four rooms set apart for the study of natural science and a school for drawing, the central school-building contains a gymnasium, a common-room for day boys, four sets of rooms for assistant masters, and two libraries, one of which is devoted to the valuable books which used to be kept in the old school library. The portraits of Edward VI., Sir Philip Sidney, Leonard Hotchkis, and others, which formerly hung on the library walls, have been placed in the Head Master's house.

The chief entrance of the school-building opens into a fairly spacious hall, on the walls of which, as well as on those of the broad stone staircase which leads upwards from the hall to the class-rooms, the old honour-boards have been fixed. There are staircases also at both ends of the building; by that at the west end access is obtained to the masters' apartments. All the class-rooms are warmed by hot water. As at present arranged the roof consists of a lead flat, which is railed in and surmounted in the centre by a large zinc-covered cupola. Fine views can be obtained from here of the triple summit of the Breidden, of the Stiperstones, Caer Caradoc, the Long Mynd, the lion-like form of Pontesbury Hill, Grinshill, Hawkestone, Haughmond Hill, and the Wrekin on the one side, and of the Severn, the Quarry, and the greater part of the town of Shrewsbury on the other. The old red brickwork of the "Foundling Hospital" has been cleaned and repointed, and string courses and window dressings have been introduced, and the general appearance of what is now the chief school-building is fairly imposing.

<sup>1</sup> Two other rooms are also used for "preparation" in the evening. The institution itself, though popularly known as "Top Schools," has always had besides the more dignified appellation of "Reading-room."

Mr. Blomfield was also the architect of the Head Master's house, which was the only boarding-house built at the cost of the Governing Body. It has accommodation for about sixty-six boys, and harmonises fairly well, architecturally speaking, with the central school-building. Other boarding-houses were, however, built at the same time on ground included within the school property by two of the assistant masters, the Rev. G. T. Hall and the Rev. C. J. S. Churchill, of both of which Mr. William White, F.S.A., was the architect. According to existing regulations the number of boarders which an assistant master is allowed to take is limited to forty-two, and two of that number, it is provided, must always be the holders of house scholarships worth £30 a year. No limitation is put by statute or regulation on the number of the Head Master's boarders. Since 1882 several other houses have been built or rented by assistant masters outside the school gates in which boarders are now received. The largest of these, which belongs to Mr. E. B. Moser, is built, like Mr. Hall's and Mr. Churchill's houses, from the designs of Mr. William White. All three houses are admirably adapted for their purpose as regards their interior arrangements. Externally, also, they present features of considerable architectural merit. Mr. A. F. Chance, Mr. F. E. Bennett, Mr. W. D. Haydon, and Mr. C. J. Baker are the other masters who take boarders. It is provided by the regulations of the Governing Body that no boy shall attend the school as a boarder unless he board with one of the schoolmasters; or, as a day boy, unless he reside with his parents or guardians, or with someone who has received a licence from the Governing Body to take boys to lodge and board in his house. An ample supply of water for general school purposes is procured from a reservoir in the school-buildings, into which the water is forced by means of a small engine. The source of this supply is a well near the Head Master's house. The Kingsland property has also been connected by pipes with the old conduit spring, and the excellent water which comes from this source is available for all residents. A school shop was started soon after the removal to the



THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS AT KINGSLAND





present site, and has, up to this time, been a great financial success. It is managed by a committee of boys, on which every boarding-house is represented, with a master for chairman. The cricket pavilion adjoins the shop. It has been recently enlarged, and boards have been placed on the walls of the principal room recording the names of the boys in the school cricket and football elevens for each year from 1882. An excellent swimming-bath has been presented to the school by the Head Master. It is seventy feet long by twenty-five in breadth, and varies in depth from three feet and a half to six feet and a half. Almost adjoining the bath a carpenter's shop has been erected, which is supplied with two lathes and all the necessary apparatus for instruction in the work of the carpenter, the joiner, and the turner. The Sanatorium is situated about a quarter of a mile from the boarding-houses. Allusion has already been made to some of the ordinances framed by the Governing Body for the regulation of school affairs, by which previous ordinances have been in some degree modified; but it will be well to state briefly some of the chief changes that have been made. The new ordinances consist partly of *statutes* and partly of *regulations*. By one of the new statutes all masters are now appointed by, and hold their offices at the pleasure of, the Head Master. He is bound, however, whenever he may dismiss a master, to notify the fact and the reason for it to the Governing Body.

The Act of 1798, while placing the appointment of all other masters in the hands of the Head Master, and giving him power to displace, remove, or discharge any of them for immorality, neglect of duty, incapacity, or other reasonable cause, had left his former independent position to the second master, although expressly reserving to the Head Master the general arrangements for the teaching and discipline of the school. Other important changes have also been made dealing with the rights which burgesses of Shrewsbury formerly possessed of free education for their children, and the restrictions which had been placed by the school ordinances or by founders' wills on the appointment to exhibitions or

scholarships of boys educated at Shrewsbury School. In the first case, subject to the rights of persons who were burgesses at the time of the passing of the Public School Act of 1868 to send their boys to school without the payment of any tuition fee, the burgess claim to gratis education given by the Act of 1798 has been entirely abolished. As regards school scholarships and exhibitions all restrictions to particular colleges at Oxford and Cambridge have been removed, and all limitations as to the place of birth and the parentage or lineage of the candidates have been done away with, except in the cases of the exhibitions founded by Dr. John Millington, and the two exhibitions founded by the Rev. R. B. Podmore and Mrs. Noneley respectively. The preference to which the sons of Mrs. Laura Seraphina Beddoes were entitled in respect of the exhibitions founded by Dr. John Millington, their ancestor, is expressly reserved to them. The Podmore exhibition is still confined to Shropshire boys, and can only be held at Trinity College, Cambridge. The Noneley exhibition can only be held at some college in the university of Oxford. The preferential claims which certain persons and classes of persons had to the Vicarage of Chirbury and the curacies of St. Mary, Shrewsbury, Astley, and Clive have also been abolished. No provision was made under Ashton's ordinances that the Head Master should be in holy orders. We know, indeed, that two Head Masters appointed in the sixteenth century, Thomas Lawrence and John Meighen, were laymen. But the Act of 1798, in requiring that the Head Master should hold the office of catechist and reader, practically made holy orders a necessary qualification. No such limitation exists in the present statutes. The only requirement for candidates for the post is that they should be Masters of Arts, or of some equal or superior degree in one or other of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. None of the schoolmasters were allowed under Ashton's ordinances to "take the charge or cure of preaching or ministry in the Church," or to "practise physic or any other art or profession, whereby their service in the school should be hindered." But no



THE NEW SCHOOL CHAPEL INTERIOR





similar regulation is to be found in the Act of 1798 by which Ashton's ordinances were repealed, and, as a matter of fact, Dr. Butler held ecclesiastical preferment nearly the whole time he was Head Master. The old restrictions have, however, now been practically restored so far as the Head Master is concerned, for one of the new statutes provides that he shall not hold any ecclesiastical or other office to which any emolument is attached without the consent of the Governing Body. Provision is made in the regulations that divine service shall be celebrated in the school chapel by the Head Master, or by some person appointed by him, at which all boys shall be required to attend subject to the operation of a "conscience clause" which applies not only to religious worship, but to all religious instruction. General power is given by the regulations to the Head Master to dismiss from the school any boy who has been guilty of gross misconduct and to forbid the return of any boy who has been persistently idle; but he is required to report to the Governing Body every term the number of cases in which he may have exercised this power. All boys on the foundation have a statutable right of appeal to the Governing Body against any such sentence of dismissal by the Head Master. Subject to such modifications as the changed conditions in its new home and the educational requirements of the present age have rendered necessary, the school may be said to remain much the same as regards hours and methods of discipline as it was in Dr. Butler's and Dr. Kennedy's days.

The præpostorial system, for the introduction of which at Shrewsbury Dr. Butler was responsible, and which was described by Dr. Kennedy as "the very bone and sinew of public school education," remains practically unchanged. Theoretically the authority exercised by Shrewsbury præpostors over the other boys has always been of a strictly limited character, and the only punishment which, up to the end of Dr. Kennedy's time, they were recognized as having the right to inflict, was that of setting small impositions. But of this right very little use has ever been made, though doubtless the præpostors have found other means from time

to time of enforcing their authority besides those of moral suasion. The privileges of præpostors, as they were described by Dr. Kennedy in 1862,<sup>1</sup> were to wear a hat instead of the regulation college cap, which was worn by all the other boys until some years after the removal of the school to Kingsland; to carry a stick when out walking;<sup>2</sup> to be independent of the ordinary rules as to bounds, and to *doul* the younger boys for the service of Head-room. For this latter purpose four boys were put on the roll each week as general fags for Head-room, the duties which they had to discharge being chiefly those of fetching and carrying at meal times. Dr. Kennedy, whose rooted objection to individual fagging as practised at most of our old public schools has been already mentioned, seems to have seen some distinction between the two customs. There is still no recognized system of fagging, although there undoubtedly exists at the present time, as there always has existed, a certain amount of irregular fagging. The number of præpostors in 1821 was only eight. But this number was increased a few years afterwards to twelve, and twelve remained the normal number until the recent removal of the school to Kingsland.

New boys are never made præpostors. But when a boy gets promoted after examination into the upper sixth he becomes a præpostor at once, however young he may be. It sometimes happens that a præpostor is beaten in examination by a boy in the lower sixth. In such a case, though losing position in the form, he retains his rank and privileges as præpostor. Boys who occupy a distinguished position on the modern side, or in science, or in the army class, are generally made præpostors. The Public School Commissioners regarded the recognition by the Head Master of the præpostors as a sort of senate representing the school and entitled to negotiate with him on matters of common school interest, and to give pledges and enter into conditions

<sup>1</sup> See evidence in Report of Public School Commission.

<sup>2</sup> The tall hat is no longer worn except on Sundays, but the præpostors continue to carry sticks as a mark of distinction.

on behalf of the school, as peculiar to Shrewsbury. The præpostors still discharge their old duties of calling the names at "callings over" and reading the lessons in chapel. They also retain their representative character, though perhaps their collective influence is less powerful now that they are distributed among the various boarding-houses than it used to be when they were all, or nearly all, massed together in "Doctor's hall." This defect might in great measure be rectified were a common room provided in which all the præpostors could meet together and consult on school matters. For purposes of instruction the whole school is now divided into two *sides*, the classical and the modern, and all boys belong nominally to one or other of these two sides. Latin and mathematics are taught throughout the school. Subject to that proviso it is open to any boy to take up the study of natural science or of mathematics almost exclusively. There is also an army class in which boys are prepared for Woolwich, Sandhurst, and Cooper's Hill, and which is provided with a larger staff of masters in proportion to the number of boys taught than either of the two main school divisions. The classical side still boasts, as might be expected, the larger number of boys. All boys on this side get some hours' instruction in mathematics during the week, five hours as a rule in the lower school and four in the upper. For the mathematical lessons two forms are put together and divided into three divisions of about twenty boys each. French is also taught in every form on the classical side except, for some inscrutable reason, in the upper sixth. In all forms below the sixth the order changes every term, but in the sixth a change takes place only once a year. These changes are the result of a joint examination in classics, French, and mathematics.<sup>1</sup> The leaving scholarships and exhibitions for boys going up to Oxford and Cambridge have hitherto been awarded almost exclusively for classical merit, but report says that in future one leaving scholarship is to be given for mathematics and one for natural science

<sup>1</sup> There appears to be one exception to this rule. Promotion from VI.3 to VI.2 takes place on the ground of classical merit only.



every year. At the present time the study of natural science is pursued with considerable success at Shrewsbury, and more scholarships appear to be obtained at the universities for natural science, in proportion to the number of boys who devote themselves to that study at school, than for classics. Shrewsbury holds aloof from the Oxford and Cambridge certificate examination.

Since March, 1877, the school has boasted its own magazine, which is published under the title of *The Salopian*. On two previous occasions a similar magazine had been started at Shrewsbury, but its existence proved ephemeral. Two boys in Jee's hall, one of whom was Henry William Hemans,<sup>1</sup> a son of the well-known poetess, were responsible for the first venture, which was made about 1834. The magazine in question was published by Eddowes, of Shrewsbury; but only a few numbers were printed. In the absence of any known copies of the first Shrewsbury magazine the following fragment of an opening poem by Hemans may be acceptable to readers of the modern *Salopian* :—

“Although no Byron's vivid pen will trace  
The scenes that in our magazine find place,  
Do not on that account *our writings shun*,  
Nor spurn our effort ere 'tis well begun.  
If in these pages *haply* you may trace  
One spark of wit, or one untutored grace,  
Forget, dear friends, *to blame*: our faults confessed,  
Where we have erred, forgive; applaud the rest.”<sup>2</sup>

The next appearance of *The Salopian* took place in 1860, and seven numbers were published in that year. But after this no further attempt was made to carry on a school magazine until 1877.

Although the general history of games and amusements will be dealt with in a subsequent chapter, it may perhaps be convenient to mention here the arrangements made at the

<sup>1</sup> *H. W. Hemans* became in after years British Consul at Buffalo, U.S.A., and was a contributor to the *North American Review*. He died in 1871 in Brazil. (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*)

<sup>2</sup> The words in italics are conjectural emendations of an imperfect text drawn from the memory of an old *Salopian* contemporary of Hemans.



SIXTH FORM ROOM IN NEW SCHOOL



present time to enable as many boys as possible to take their part in cricket, football, and boating, and to encourage a wholesome competition between the different houses in athletic matters.

First, as regards cricket. During the whole of the cricket season, unless there be a school match or play be made impossible by the weather, some six or seven different games are arranged for all half-holidays and short lesson days, and in these games there will often be as many as 150 boys playing. The games are known as: (1) Senior Game; (2) Middle Game; (3) Junior Game; (4) Junior House Games. The teams which contend in the Senior Game are selected by the Captain of the school eleven, and are mostly made up of boys in the first and second elevens. Other members of the school eleven undertake the responsibility of getting up the Middle and Junior Games. The Junior House Games are played between elevens from different houses composed of boys who are not selected to play in the other games, and, from their representative character, have always been very popular. Practising at the nets goes on every day between second lesson and dinner time, three of them being always reserved for the use of the first and second elevens and other boys selected by the Captain of the Cricket Club. At these nets each boy gets fifteen minutes' batting, and takes his share of the bowling. The coaching is done by some of the masters who are interested in cricket and the school *professionals*. Nets are provided for *house practice* as well as for *school practice*; but on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays each house has the privilege of sending its young cricketers to the school nets between 12 o'clock and 2 p.m., for one period of two hours. The *house matches* always excite the keenest interest. They are played on the semi-league system, the nine<sup>1</sup> houses being arranged in two divisions by lot, and each house playing all the other houses in its own division. Thus in division A, containing five houses, each house has to play four matches; while in division B,

<sup>1</sup> The sixth form boys in the Head Master's house are reckoned as "a house" in school competitions.



which contains but four houses, each house plays three matches. The house winning most matches in its own division is said to be *head* of that division, and plays the *head* of the other division in the *final*. Should there be any ties in either division they are of course previously played off to decide which house is *head* of its division. The winning house holds a challenge bat, and each member of the winning eleven a silver bat,<sup>1</sup> for the year. The second elevens also play in heats for a similar trophy.

At football the first and second elevens of the different houses compete with one another on the league system, and the trophies are silver bowls. Ordinary games at football are classified, as in cricket, as Senior, Middle, Junior, and Junior House Games. Various arrangements have at different times been made to prevent the "juniors" being swamped by older and bigger boys, who, not being very good, prefer these games to the other school games. The latest plan has been to make out a list of those qualified to play in "Junior House Games," and to forbid other boys to take part in them.

Boating goes on more or less the whole year, and there are races of one sort or another in each term, the most important of which, the bumping races for first and second *house fours*, are rowed in the summer term. These races are conducted on precisely the same lines as those at Oxford and Cambridge. Great pains are taken by some of the masters interested in rowing in *coaching* the *house fours*, and a supply of oarsmen is thus provided from which the *trial eights* and ultimately the *school eight* are selected. The thoroughness with which the system of instruction is carried out, combined with the proximity of the river and the prosperity of the Boat Club, have made Shrewsbury of late years a good nursery for rowing, and large numbers of Old Salopians are to be found year by year pulling in their college crews at Oxford and Cambridge.

There are also annual house competitions in *athletics*

<sup>1</sup> The silver bats were presented to the school by the Nawab Vikar al Ulma of Hyderabad.

and *paper chases*. The *trophy* for *athletics*, which is a challenge cup, goes to the house which scores most points in the annual contest. The *paper chases* take place in the Lent term, and the length of the *run* is from four to five miles. No officers of the R.S.S.H. or *gentlemen* are allowed to run. Only two houses compete at a time, and the house that wins the greatest number of *heats* holds a challenge cup for the year. In running off a *heat* the first twenty-five runners score points for their respective houses, the leader getting twenty-five points and the others scoring in proportion. The house that gets the largest number of points in any paper chase wins the *heat*.

The number of Salopians who may be classed as Mr. Moss's pupils and have obtained a distinguished position in the world is somewhat inconsiderable at present. But there are several among them whom the school is proud to reckon as her *alumni*.

The Very Rev. Francis Paget,<sup>1</sup> D.D., who was for a time Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology at Oxford, and is now Dean of Christ Church, was at Shrewsbury School from 1864 to 1869.

William Emerton Heitland,<sup>2</sup> M.A., fellow of St. John's College, who was Craven university scholar in 1869 and Senior Classic in 1871, and Richard Dacre Archer Hind,<sup>3</sup> M.A., fellow of Trinity College, Craven university scholar in 1871, and third Classic and Senior Chancellor's Medallist in

<sup>1</sup> *Dr. Paget* gained the Hertford university scholarship and the Chancellor's Prize for Latin verse in 1871; 1st class in Classical Moderations, 1871; 1st class in lit. hum., 1873; M.A. in 1876; D.D. in 1885; ordained, 1875; Chaplain to the Bishop of Oxford, 1889; Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Ely, 1878-1892; Oxford Preacher at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, 1881-1883; Senior Student of Christ Church, 1873-83; tutor, 1876-83; Vicar of Bromsgrove, 1882-85; Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology and Canon of Christ Church, 1885-92; author of various theological works.

<sup>2</sup> *Mr. W. E. Heitland* was at Shrewsbury School 1862-67, and was head boy in 1866.

<sup>3</sup> *Mr. R. D. Archer Hind* (formerly Hodgson) was at Shrewsbury School 1862-1868. He gained the Porson Prize in 1869 and a Browne Medal for Greek elegiacs in 1869.

1872, have both done good work at Cambridge as tutors and lecturers of their respective colleges.<sup>1</sup> The latter has examined for the Classical Tripos no less than twelve times. John Henry Onions,<sup>2</sup> M.A., of Christ Church, Oxford, after gaining the Ireland and Craven scholarships, and a 1st class in Classical Moderations, became Senior Student in 1876 and tutor of Christ Church in 1878, but his useful educational work at Oxford was brought to a premature end by his death in 1889.

The Rev. R. F. Horton, D.D., minister of Lyndhurst Road Chapel, Hampstead, late fellow of New College, Oxford, who gained a 1st class in Classical Moderations as well as in the Final Classical School, acted as lecturer in history for his college from 1879 to 1883.<sup>3</sup>

William Joseph Myles Starkie, who was head boy at Shrewsbury 1879-80, had a distinguished career both at Trinity College, Cambridge, and also at Trinity College, Dublin. Of the latter college he was elected a fellow in 1890, and seven years later he was appointed a member of the Academic Council of Dublin University. Mr. Starkie was made a Commissioner of Education for Ireland in 1890. He is now President of Queen's College, Galway.<sup>4</sup>

Among the modern Salopians who, after distinguished careers at Oxford or Cambridge, are now doing valuable

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Dr. Kennedy's method of classification Mr. Heitland and Mr. Archer Hind are included among Mr. Moss's pupils as having been under his tuition for at least one year before going to college. But it is right to mention that both of them were for three years in the sixth form under Dr. Kennedy.

<sup>2</sup> *Mr. J. H. Onions* took a 1st class in Classical Moderations in 1873; Ireland scholar, 1875; Craven scholar, 1876. He was at Shrewsbury School, 1867-1871. B.A., 1876; M.A., 1878.

<sup>3</sup> *Mr. R. F. Horton* was born in 1855, and was at Shrewsbury School 1874 to 1879; B.A., 1878; M.A., 1881; fellow of New College, 1879; Chairman of the London Congregational Union, 1898. Dr. Horton has published several books, chiefly theological.

<sup>4</sup> *Mr. W. J. M. Starkie* was born at Sligo in 1860. First class in the Classical Tripos at Cambridge in 1883. At Dublin he gained the Berkeley Gold Medal for Greek and many other prizes and distinctions. While still an undergraduate at Trinity College, Dublin, from 1883 to 1886, Mr. Starkie was acting as Professor of Classical Literature in the Roman Catholic University of Ireland.





NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND CHAPEL





work at one or other of the public schools, the most prominent are:—

Arthur Herman Gilkes,<sup>1</sup> M.A., of Christ Church, Oxford, Head Master of Dulwich College, who took a 1st class in Classical Moderations and also in the Final Classical School, and was subsequently an assistant master at Shrewsbury from 1873 to 1875;

Thomas Ethelbert Page,<sup>1</sup> M.A., late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, assistant master at the Charterhouse, who gained the Porson and Davies university scholarships, three Browne Medals, the Porson Prize, and the Chancellor's Medal for an English poem while an undergraduate, and was bracketed equal for the second place in the Classical Tripos and for the Chancellor's Medal in 1873;

John Cottam Moss, M.A., late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, assistant master at Harrow, who carried off the Porson and Craven university scholarships, the Powis Medal, and no less than eight Browne Medals, as an undergraduate, and was placed third in the 1st class of the Classical Tripos in 1882; and John Lewis Alexander Paton, M.A., late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, assistant master at Rugby, who was placed in the first division of the 1st class in Part I. of the Classical Tripos in 1886, and also gained a 1st class in Part II. of the Classical Tripos and the Junior Chancellor's Medal in 1887.

William Wallis English, M.A., late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, who gained a Browne Medal in 1876, and was third Classic in 1878, worked for several years as an assistant master at Rugby, until he was compelled by ill-health to give up his post.

Stanley John Weyman,<sup>2</sup> who has earned for himself a considerable reputation in the literary world by *The House of the Wolf*, *The New Rector*, *A Gentleman of France*, *My Lady Rotha*, and other novels and historical romances, was

<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that Mr. Gilkes and Mr. Page were both for two years in the sixth form under Dr. Kennedy.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Stanley John Weyman was born at Ludlow August 7th, 1855. He graduated B.A. at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1877, taking a 2nd class in the Modern History School, and was called to the Bar in 1881.

educated at Shrewsbury School. So also was Henry W. Nevinson, the author of *Herder and His Times*, and, like Mr. Weyman, a novel writer. Mr. Nevinson acted as war correspondent for a prominent London newspaper during the recent war between Greece and Turkey. He was at Christ Church, Oxford, and took a 2nd class both in Moderations and the Final Classical School.

Another Salopian of literary distinction, though of a different kind, Owen Seaman,<sup>1</sup> has been described as "a literary parodist of superlative excellence." He distinguished himself at Cambridge by gaining the Porson Prize and a 1st class in the Classical Tripos. After a few years spent in scholastic work at Rossall and Newcastle-on-Tyne Mr. Seaman settled in London and was called to the Bar. But his work for some time has been almost entirely of a literary kind. He has been for the last few years on the staff of *Punch*. Among his chief publications are *Œdipus the Wreck* (1888), *Horace at Cambridge* (1894), *The Tillers of the Sand* (1895), and *The Battle of the Bays* (1896).

George M. Chesney, who left Shrewsbury School about 1874, is well known in India as the editor of the *Pioneer*.

Graham Wallas, M.A.,<sup>2</sup> author of a *Life of Francis Place*, a University Extension Lecturer, and a prominent member of the London School Board, should also be commemorated as the first editor of the modern series of *The Salopian*.

Major H. D. Laffan, R.E., Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General in the Intelligence Department of the War Office, was the first Shrewsbury man to pass the examination for admission into the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. This was in 1876, when his name stood first in the list. Many other young officers of promise have also entered the army from Shrewsbury during the last twenty-five years, and the army class has been for some years an important centre of school work.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Owen Seaman gained the Porson Prize in 1882; B.A., 1883. He was a scholar of Clare College.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Graham Wallas was a scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He took a 2nd class in Classical Mods. in 1879, and in the Final Classical School in 1881.

Two other Shrewsbury men have distinguished themselves of late years as adventurous travellers and daring sportsmen—Charles St. George Littledale, to whom the Royal Geographical Society has recently awarded its gold medal; and F. J. Jackson, now Acting-Commissioner and British Vice-Consul in the Protectorate of Uganda, who led the first caravan of the British East Africa Company. Mr. Jackson wrote the account of "Big Game Shooting in Africa" in the Badminton Library, and was the donor of a valuable collection of African birds to the South Kensington Museum.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

### Games and Amusements at Shrewsbury School.

THE old Shrewsbury chronicler, whose interesting and valuable volume is commonly known as the *Taylor MS.*, has preserved some few details of the dramatic performances and military displays which were prominent among the amusements of Shrewsbury boys during the latter part of the sixteenth century, and he makes one allusion at least to the practice of "shooting in the long bow," which was one of the recognized games of the school. But we do not find in his chronicle any mention made of running, leaping, wrestling, or chess-play, the only other games which were allowed under the school ordinances; and after 1603, when the chronicle comes to an end, the history of Shrewsbury is a blank, so far as the sports and amusements of the boys are concerned, till the days of Dr. Butler, although we know from the fact of "the Ball Place" undergoing some rather extensive repairs in 1798-99,<sup>1</sup> that in some form or other the Ball Courts existed in Atcherley's, and probably in Newling's days. Boating was carried on throughout the whole of the time Dr. Butler remained at Shrewsbury, though not without frequent efforts on his part to put it down. Football he held in special abhorrence, and it was only played under great difficulties, as we have seen in a former chapter. Mr. Gretton, who was at Shrewsbury from 1814 to 1822, refers to cricket incidentally when speaking of his experiences as a young boy.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Charles Simpson, who was a Salopian of rather earlier date,<sup>3</sup> told

<sup>1</sup> See school vouchers from 1798 to 1820 in the town records.

<sup>2</sup> See *Memory's Harkback*, by F. E. GRETTON.

<sup>3</sup> *Mr. Charles Simpson* was at Shrewsbury School from 1810 to 1815. He died at Lichfield April 22nd, 1890.



THE OLD SCHOOL FROM MEADOW PLACE  
SHOWING THE OLD BALL COURTS

FROM AN OLD ENGRAVING 1811



the Rev. J. E. Auden that the boys used to play cricket in his time in a field near *the Flash*. The description is a little indefinite, but there can hardly be any doubt that the field in question may be identified with the Coton Hill cricket ground of later generations; and, if this be the case, it seems clear that Dr. Butler allowed the boys to use this field, which was part of his farm at Coton Hill, for cricket purposes in the early part of the century as well as in the later years of his head-mastership, when it was certainly so used, for Salopians still living remember one of the boys hitting a cricket ball from this field over the houses into *the Flash*; and Mr. Smythies, the big hitter in question, left school six months before Dr. Butler's resignation. Cricket was also occasionally played in the small field below the Ball Courts, which, about the year 1850, was absorbed in the new Cattle Market.<sup>1</sup>

The *boar hunting* and *duck poaching*, of which we frequently hear in Dr. Butler's time, can hardly be reckoned among legitimate school amusements, although they seem in some measure to have taken the place of the more wholesome sports of cricket and football.

For many years past one of the most popular institutions at Shrewsbury School has been the R.S.S.H., or Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt. It is of course the old school game of "Hare and Hounds"; and, although it can never have furnished the special excitements which belonged to the form of the game known at Eton and Harrow as "Jack o' Lantern," the R.S.S.H. is noteworthy for its elaborate constitution, under which each boy finds his place, either as huntsman, whip, gentleman, or hound.<sup>2</sup> For many years too

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Humphrey Sandford, of the Isle, near Shrewsbury, remembers playing cricket regularly in this field while he was at school between 1820 and 1830. In later years it was chiefly used for rounders, prisoner's base, and quoits. The Cattle Market was formally opened in 1851. This field does not appear to have been school property, as in the school accounts of 1836 mention is made of rent paid to Mr. Egerton Jeffreys for the playground in Raven Meadows.

<sup>2</sup> It should be noted in connection with the independent origin of the game at Shrewsbury that the two boys who carry *scent* have always been called *foxes* and never *hares*.



the delights of the runs were intensified by the fact that they were carried on in complete contempt of all school regulations as to bounds; and their popularity was further increased by the perpetual feuds which they caused with the neighbouring farmers.<sup>1</sup> Except for a gap between 1846 and 1849 the history of the R.S.S.H. has been regularly recorded in the run books from the year 1842, but the institution itself is of much earlier origin. Old Salopians are still living who remember the runs in Dr. Butler's days, and relate with pride their attainment of the honour of being pronounced *killing hound* or *killing gentleman*. These honours were gained, then as now, by the hound or gentleman who "killed"; that is to say, who came in first in a race at the finish the greatest number of times during the season. At one time there used to be two separate packs of hounds—one in Jee's hall and the other in Iliff's<sup>2</sup>—and these were hunted at different hours on the same day. Dr. Butler does not appear to have interfered with the runs, or to have made any attempt to put them down; and it is confidently stated by an old Shrewsbury boy, who was at school from 1834 to 1840, and had a long experience as hound, gentleman, whip, and huntsman, that they met with no hindrance in the early years of Dr. Kennedy's head-mastership. For a long time indeed Dr. Kennedy does not appear to have been aware of the extent to which the runs were carried on "out of bounds," and before 1850 no record exists of any members of the hunt being punished on that account. His eyes, however, were opened to some evils connected with the runs in 1843 or 1844 by the disappearance of a large number of copies of the new Latin Grammar,<sup>3</sup> which had taken the form of *scout*, and a temporary check on the operations of the hounds ensued. Between 1850 and 1856 some spasmodic efforts were made from time to time to stop the practice

<sup>1</sup> On one occasion a complaint as to the hounds "trespassing" led, first, to a general punishment, then to broken windows, and lastly to the whole school being sent home a week before the holidays.

<sup>2</sup> Accounts of the runs made by Mr. Iliff's hounds in 1831 are still in existence.

<sup>3</sup> The first edition of Dr. Kennedy's *Elementary Latin Grammar* was published in 1843.

of carrying on the runs "out of bounds." On the whole it may fairly be said of the runs up to the year 1856 that, though tolerated by the Head Master, they had never received his sanction.<sup>1</sup> In that year, however, Dr. Kennedy made up his mind to have recourse to strong measures in the matter, and, having first threatened to put a stop to the runs altogether by multiplying "callings over," he subsequently offered to sanction them for the future on condition that the præpostors pledged themselves in writing that they should be carried on under certain fixed regulations.

For many years it had been the annual custom for the huntsman and gentlemen shortly before the Christmas holidays to provide a dinner for the hounds at "Mother Wade's," which was known as *the hounds' slay*.<sup>2</sup> Now there were certain evils connected with this entertainment which were so patent to Dr. Kennedy that, although unwilling to prohibit altogether a long-established school institution like the runs, he determined to take this course, unless the præpostors would promise in behalf of the school that for the future no drink should be introduced at *the hounds' slay* except bitter beer. The other conditions to which the assent of the præpostors was required in order to obtain the Head Master's sanction for the runs were four in number:—

1. That the number of runs during the season should be limited to six.<sup>3</sup>
2. That the runs should always take place on a Saturday.
3. That the river should not, under any circumstances, be crossed.
4. That no boys should be allowed to run who were considered by the Head Master to be unfit to do so.

<sup>1</sup> A note in the run book, dated September 26th, 1846, says that the hounds were *tolerated*, though not *sanctioned*, by the Head Master, and it is evident that these terms emanated from him.

<sup>2</sup> *Hounds' slay* seems to be the most generally accepted orthography, though some old Salopians prefer the spelling *hounds' sleigh*. Dr. Butler speaks in a letter to his son of the *slays* which masters occasionally gave to the boys. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,588.) Popular tradition at Shrewsbury connects the word *slay*, when used for an entertainment, with the story of the killing of *the fatted calf*.

<sup>3</sup> The number was subsequently increased to seven at the request of Mr. William Butler Lloyd, who asked Dr. Kennedy to allow a run to be taken over his grounds at Monkmoor.

Schoolboys are very conservative about old customs, even when they are tainted with abuses, the existence of which they themselves are ready to acknowledge, and several days passed before the præpostors consented to agree to Dr. Kennedy's very reasonable propositions. But they did agree at last, although it is to be feared that in subsequent years the conditions were not religiously observed by the boys.<sup>1</sup> There are, or used to be, two dangers connected with the runs at Shrewsbury, which no faithful historian should omit to mention. In the first place, one of the runs certainly, "the Long Run," and perhaps also "the Albrighton," was a severe trial of the physical strength and endurance of growing boys. Secondly, it used to be the custom for some of the *gentlemen*, at any rate, to carry with them stimulants, and their use occasionally produced results almost as deleterious as those due to over-exertion. In November, 1866, a very serious case of exhaustion occurred, one of the hounds remaining in a state of unconsciousness for twelve hours after the conclusion of the run, in spite of the unceasing efforts of the medical men in attendance to rouse him from his stupor. Happily the boy ultimately recovered, and he has since attained celebrity both as a traveller and as a sportsman. Mr. Moss, who had only recently become Head Master, was, not unnaturally, seriously alarmed by the occurrence, and at once issued an edict to the following effect:—

1. That "the Long Run" should be altogether given up.
2. That "the Albrighton Run" should not take place in the current season.
3. That the Head Master should in future be furnished by the huntsman with a written statement of the length and direction of any proposed run on the day before it was to take place.

<sup>1</sup> In his evidence before the Public School Commissioners, given in 1862, Dr. Kennedy stated that this arrangement about *the hounds' slay* was the last formal agreement into which the præpostors had entered with him on behalf of the school. No mention is made in the run book of *the hounds' slay* as the subject of one of the conditions of the agreement made in 1856. But there is little or no doubt that Dr. Kennedy was referring in his evidence to the arrangement of 1856. In acknowledgment of the stand made at this time by the præpostors in defence of the runs, it was resolved that præpostors should henceforth be made "gentlemen" *ex officio*. This institution of "gentlemen postors" lasted until a few years ago.





"COUPLED UP" FOR THE "TUCKS" RUN





In 1860 the R.S.S.H. was presented with a horn and whip, bearing suitable inscriptions, by the members of a Shrewsbury velocipede club at Cambridge, who, true to Shrewsbury traditions, called themselves *the Tachypods*. The subscriptions of the members of the club were mainly devoted to the formation of an insurance fund intended to protect them from the dangers of proctorial fines on their return from long country excursions, and when the club, after a short-lived but active existence, came to an untimely end, they showed their affection for the R.S.S.H. by employing the balance of their insurance fund for its benefit.

The runs of the present day no longer possess the unwholesome attractions of illegality which formerly distinguished them, but they are carried on with plenty of zeal notwithstanding. Another noticeable difference lies in the disuse of paper scent, which, from the precision with which the line of country to be taken in each particular run is now arranged, is no longer necessary.<sup>1</sup>

Boating comes next to the R.S.S.H. as an old and honoured institution at Shrewsbury School. The story that has been told in a former chapter of the verses which Richard Shilleto laid upon Dr. Butler's desk one day when the Head Master was denouncing boating in vigorous terms, is a sufficient proof that up to Shilleto's time, 1825 to 1828, the boys used to hire their boats from Harwood, whose ferry and boat-house were on the Hereford side of the river, about three or four hundred yards from the site of the boat-house now standing immediately below the school-house on Kingsland. But soon after 1830 they became possessed, somehow or other, of two six-oars and one four-oar of their own, which were kept at Harwood's. Although Dr. Butler still retained his dislike of the boating, it had become by this time an understood thing that he would not strenuously oppose it. Certainly he must have given up his old practice of flogging the younger boys who were caught in the act, for in 1830,

<sup>1</sup> The old "Long Run" was subsequently revived, and is still continued, on condition that the boys taking part in it are conveyed from Kingsland to the "throw off," and from "the finish" back again to Kingsland, in a brake.

or soon after, it became the regular custom in the boating season for some of the stronger *douls* to run down to the Quarry between *repetition* and breakfast in order to take the boats up the fords and *the Gut* as far as *the Flash*, where they were left till second lesson was over, when some of the bigger fellows who frequented the river would row up to *the Wheel* at Berwick, and occasionally on to Leaton Knolls, where the Squire was always glad to provide them with beef and beer for their luncheon.

The Rev. Edgar Montagu describes the six-oars as "awful," and the oars then in use as "much mended with iron after the fashion of cart shafts."

At the first school regatta, which took place in 1839, two school crews raced each other in the six-oars. There was also another race between the *Pengwern*, an eight-oar belonging to a town club, which was manned by a mixed crew of townsmen and boys, and the four-oar, which had for its crew Edgar Montagu, of Caius; George Denman, of Trinity, the future judge, who had come to Shrewsbury to see his brother; R. H. Cobbold, who, though still a schoolboy, was on the point of going up to Cambridge; and Heighway Jones, of Magdalene, as stroke. To the great indignation of the school captain the *Pengwern* was bumped by the Cambridge four-oar.

There is no doubt that about this time Shrewsbury sent up many fine oars to Cambridge. Five Salopians were in the Magdalene boat when it rowed second on the Cam in 1840 or 1842, and three out of the five pulled once at least in the Oxford and Cambridge boat race. Edgar Montagu was in the Caius boat when it was head of the river in 1840, and the Peterhouse crew included three Shrewsbury men when it occupied a similar position in 1842. These were Robert Henry Cobbold, "Jacob" Best,<sup>1</sup> and Robert Potter.<sup>2</sup> The

<sup>1</sup> *John Best*, who was known to his school-fellows as *Jacob*, graduated B.A. in 1844.

<sup>2</sup> *Robert Potter*, son of Richard Potter, Esq., of Smedley Hall, Manchester. At Shrewsbury School, 1830-1832; scholar of Peterhouse; B.A. (Senior Optime), 1840; M.A., 1843; Vicar of Bulkington, 1856-1877; Vicar of Corley, near Coventry, 1877-1896. Died October 4th, 1896.

first named is the best known to fame as an oar. He went up to college in October, 1839, and his rowing powers quickly gained him the *sobriquet* of *the Steam Engine* at Cambridge.<sup>1</sup> He pulled in the University race in 1841 and 1842, and would also have been in the Cambridge crew of 1840 had he not been prevented by a family affliction.

From the time of the first regatta in 1839 boating became a recognized institution at Shrewsbury with a regularly elected captain, who was responsible to the Head Master for the fulfilment of certain engagements. All boys above the fourth form who had learned to swim were allowed to boat, but boating was limited to that portion of the river which lay between the English bridge on the one side and the Welsh bridge on the other, except on the day of the Shelton regatta.

In spite of this regulation, which remained in force for several years, adventurous spirits used occasionally to row as far as Haughmond Abbey on the one side and Berwick Wheel on the other.

Once a year luncheon was provided by Mr. Powys for all boys who had made their way to Berwick by the river, when, it may be presumed, special permission was given for the excursion. But after a time boating in the Shelton direction was legalised, though there seems great doubt in the minds of Old Salopians whether the practice of going down to the Quarry (which was out of bounds for all boys except præpostors), after first or second lesson, in order to pull the boats up to *the Flash*, was ever distinctly recognized as legitimate.

In the latter days of Dr. Kennedy's head-mastership modern outriggers began to take the place of the old tub-like craft, and it became the custom for old boys or boating masters to give some aid to boating boys in the form of instruction in the principles of rowing.

In 1864 a boat race was arranged with Cheltenham College which took place in the Quarry, and resulted in a defeat for

<sup>1</sup> Most of these details as to Shrewsbury boating are given on the authority of either the Hon. and Rev. L. W. Denman, or the Rev. Edgar Montagu.



Shrewsbury by three or four seconds. Shrewsbury, however, had its revenge in the two following years, winning a well-contested race at Tewkesbury in 1865 by two or three feet, and gaining a comparatively easy victory in 1866 at Worcester.

Since that time Shrewsbury has rowed many races with Cheltenham, and latterly with unvarying success. So one-sided, indeed, has been the contest of late years that Cheltenham has given up the struggle, and an annual race is now rowed with Bedford Grammar School instead. The results of all these races will be given most conveniently in a tabular form.

But some mention must be made of the foundation of the School Boat Club, an event of moment in the history of rowing at Shrewsbury. Up to 1866 the whole management of boating had been vested in the "captain," an officer whose main business it was to hire a boat for the use of any five boys who agreed to make up a crew for the season. By this time the old limitation of boating to the part of the river between the two bridges had been modified, and the crews rowed up to Shelton and back every other day. The racing programme at the regatta consisted of a sculling race and a competition between *house fours*, which were practically *scratch fours*, for the "Captain's Cups."

But in 1866 the enthusiasm created by the victories over Cheltenham in that and the preceding year gave rise to a desire to make the boating more systematic, the outcome of which was the formation of the School Boat Club.

This club was founded on the lines of a college club, with a captain, secretary, and treasurer elected by the members. Boats of their own were gradually acquired by the members of the club, and funds were collected for the erection of a boat-house, which, after a delay of many years, due to the impending removal of the school, was ultimately built in 1881 on the site of Evans's boat-house. A second boat-house and a supplementary shed have since been added to meet the requirements of the club. The boys now own three "eights," some twenty-five "fours," and a large number of "pairs," "whiffs," and "canoes."



SCHOOL BUMPING RACES



## SHREWSBURY v. CHELTENHAM.

Year.	Place.	Winner.	By time or distance.
1864 <sup>1</sup>	Shrewsbury	Cheltenham	3 seconds.
1865	Tewkesbury	Shrewsbury	2 feet.
1866	Worcester	Shrewsbury	6 lengths.
1867	Worcester	Cheltenham	6 lengths.
1868	Bridgnorth	Cheltenham	Easily.
1869	Tewkesbury	Shrewsbury	2½ lengths.
1870 <sup>2</sup>	Hereford	Cheltenham	{ Shrewsbury upset while leading.
1871	Hereford	Cheltenham	Easily.
1872	Hereford	Cheltenham	5 lengths.
1873	Hereford	Cheltenham	2 lengths.
1874 <sup>3</sup>	Hereford	Cheltenham	1 length.
1875 <sup>4</sup>	Hereford	Shrewsbury	2½ lengths.
1876	Hereford	Cheltenham	2 lengths.
1882 <sup>5</sup>	Hereford	Cheltenham	½ length.
1883	Hereford	Shrewsbury	5 lengths.
1885 <sup>6</sup>	Hereford	Shrewsbury	¾ length.
1886	Hereford	Shrewsbury	4½ lengths.
1887 <sup>7</sup>	Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury	1 second.
1888	Tewkesbury	Shrewsbury	¾ length.
1889	Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury	9 seconds.
1890	Tewkesbury	Shrewsbury	1¾ lengths.
1891	Tewkesbury	Shrewsbury	2½ lengths.
1892	Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury	11 seconds.
1893	Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury	Very easily.
1894	Tewkesbury	Shrewsbury	Very easily.

## SHREWSBURY v. BEDFORD.

1895	Bedford	Bedford	2 lengths.
1896	Shrewsbury	Bedford	6 seconds.
1897 <sup>8</sup>	Bedford	Bedford	¾ length.
1898	Shrewsbury	Bedford	8 seconds.

<sup>1</sup> Cheltenham rowed in a clinker four and Shrewsbury in a heavy shell.

<sup>2</sup> Shrewsbury upset fifty yards from the finish when leading by about half a length.

<sup>3</sup> Cheltenham used slides.

<sup>4</sup> Both crews used slides in 1875.

<sup>5</sup> No race took place between 1876 and 1882.

<sup>6</sup> No race took place in 1884.

<sup>7</sup> Shrewsbury was winning easily, but stopped at the wrong station, and narrowly escaped defeat.

<sup>8</sup> Eight oars were used in 1897 for the first time in these races. All the contests which have taken place at Shrewsbury have been of necessity time races.



The following list of Shrewsbury men who have rowed in the various Oxford and Cambridge boat races which have taken place on the Thames will, it is hoped, be found accurate :—

Year.	Name.	College.	University.
1829	Edward James Arbuthnot <sup>1</sup>	Balliol	Oxford.
1829	John Carter <sup>2</sup>	St. John's	Oxford.
1836	George Carter <sup>3</sup>	St. John's	Oxford.
1836	Frederic Septimus Green <sup>4</sup>	Gonville and Caius	Cambridge.
1840	Heighway C. Jones <sup>5</sup>	Magdalene	Cambridge.
1840	George Charles Uppleby <sup>6</sup>	Magdalene	Cambridge.
1840	Godfrey Meynell <sup>7</sup>	Brasenose	Oxford.

<sup>1</sup> *E. J. Arbuthnot*, son of Sir William Arbuthnot, of Edinburgh, Bart. Born 1809. At Shrewsbury School, 1825–1827. Does not appear to have taken a degree.

<sup>2</sup> *John Carter*, son of John Carter, Esq., of Coventry. At Shrewsbury School, 1822–1825; matriculated at St. John's College, Oxford, 1826, aged seventeen; B.A., 1830; M.A., 1834; B.D., 1839; fellow, 1826–1840; Rector of Frenchay, Somerset, 1840–1875. Died December 11th, 1875.

<sup>3</sup> *George Carter*, son of John Carter, Esq., of Coventry. At Shrewsbury School, 1828–1832; matriculated at St. John's College, Oxford, 1832, aged nineteen; B.A., 1836; M.A., 1840; Rector of Compton Beauchamp, Berks, 1849.

<sup>4</sup> *Frederic Septimus Green*, son of the Rev. Edward Green, of Worcester. Born 1815. At Shrewsbury School, August, 1830, to October, 1834. Rowed also in the race between Cambridge and the Leander Club, from Westminster to Putney, on June 9th, 1837; B.A., 1838; ordained, 1838; P.C. of Holy Trinity, Mickley, 1846–1870; Rector of Lydham, Bishop's Castle, Salop, 1870–1891. Died February, 1891.

<sup>5</sup> *Heighway C. Jones*, son of William Jones, Esq., of Shelton, near Shrewsbury. Born 1819. At Shrewsbury School, 1830–1839; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, November 24th, 1845. Took no degree at Cambridge; rowed in the University race in 1840, and was to have done so in 1841, but was obliged to go out to Australia shortly before the race; his place was taken by Mr. Ritchie, of Trinity.

<sup>6</sup> *George Charles Uppleby*, son of the Rev. George Uppleby, of Bardney Hall, Burton-on-Humber. Born 1818. At Shrewsbury School, 1831–1836; B.A., 1840; M.A., 1843; rowed also in the Cambridge Subscription Rooms crew, who won the grand challenge cup at Henley in 1842, beating the Cambridge University boat and the Oxford Subscription Rooms. The Oxford boat had scratched. Mr. Uppleby was afterwards J.P. and D.L. for Lincolnshire and colonel of Volunteers. He died October 12th, 1891.

<sup>7</sup> *Godfrey Meynell*, son of Godfrey Meynell, Esq., of Langley, Derbyshire. At Shrewsbury School, 1834–1838; matriculated at Brasenose College, 1838, aged nineteen; B.A., 1842; M.A., 1845; called to the Bar at Middle Temple in 1845; rowed in the University race in 1840 and 1841.

Year.	Name.	College.	University.
1840	William Bishton Garnett, cox'n. <sup>1</sup>	Brasenose	Oxford.
1841	Hon. Lewis William Denman <sup>2</sup>	Magdalene	Cambridge.
1841	Robert Henry Cobbold <sup>3</sup>	Peterhouse	Cambridge.
1841	Godfrey Meynell	Brasenose	Oxford.
1842	Hon. Lewis William Denman	Magdalene	Cambridge.
1842	Robert Henry Cobbold	Peterhouse	Cambridge.
1843	Hon. Lewis William Denman	Magdalene	Cambridge.
1845	John Richardson <sup>4</sup>	Trinity	Cambridge.
1846	Thomas Bucknall Lloyd, <sup>5</sup> cox'n.	St. John's	Cambridge.
1856	Alfred Beale Rocke <sup>6</sup>	Christ Church	Oxford.
1869	Richard Tahourdin <sup>7</sup>	St. John's	Oxford.
1874	Percy John Hibbert <sup>8</sup>	St. John's	Cambridge.
1875	Percy John Hibbert	St. John's	Cambridge.
1875	Edward Acherley Phillips <sup>9</sup>	Gonville and Caius	Cambridge.
1879	Humphrey Sandford <sup>10</sup>	St. John's	Cambridge.
1880	Humphrey Sandford	St. John's	Cambridge.
1881	Humphrey Sandford	St. John's	Cambridge.

<sup>1</sup> *William Bishton Garnett*, son of the Rev. William Garnett, of Nantwich, Cheshire, and of Houghton Hall, near Tarporley. Born 1816. At Shrewsbury School, 1832-1835; B.A., 1840; M.A., 1853; ordained, 1841; Preacher of Bunbury, 1853; assumed the name of Botfield by royal licence in 1863; now of Decker Hill, Salop, and Houghton Hall, Cheshire.

<sup>2</sup> *Hon. Lewis William Denman*, son of Lord Denman, Lord Chief Justice of England. Born 1822. At Shrewsbury School, 1834-1840; scholar of Magdalene College; B.A. (3rd class Classics), 1844; M.A., 1847; ordained, 1844; Vicar of Escomb, County Durham, 1846-1848; Rector of Washington, County Durham, 1848-1861; Rector of Willian, Herts, 1861.

<sup>3</sup> *Robert Henry Cobbold*, afterwards Archdeacon Cobbold.

<sup>4</sup> *John Richardson*. At Shrewsbury School, 1838-1840; B.A., 1844; M.A., 1848; Rector of Willian, Herts, 1853-1858; Rector of Sandy, Bedfordshire, 1858; rowed also in the Cambridge crew which was defeated by Oxford at the Thames regatta in 1844; President of C.U.B.C., 1845.

<sup>5</sup> *Thomas Bucknall Lloyd*, afterwards Archdeacon Lloyd, Chairman of the Governing Body of Shrewsbury School.

<sup>6</sup> *Alfred Beale Rocke*, son of the Rev. John Rocke, of Clungunford, Shropshire; 1st class Classical Moderations, 1853; 2nd class Lit. Hum., 1855; Student of Christ Church, 1854-1861; B.A., 1855; M.A., 1858; Student of Lincoln's Inn, 1858. Died June 13th, 1887.

<sup>7</sup> *Richard Tahourdin*. B.A., 1870; M.A., 1873; Curate of Wylve, Wilts, 1870-1871; Curate of Wilton, 1871-1874; minor Canon of Windsor, 1874-1881; Vicar of Twickenham, 1885-1895; Vicar of Send, Woking, 1895.

<sup>8</sup> *Percy John Hibbert*, son of the Right Hon. J. T. Hibbert. B.A., 1874; M.A., 1878.

<sup>9</sup> *Edward Acherley Phillips*, son of the Rev. John Phillips, M.A., Rector of Ludlow. B.A., 1867. Died 1882.

<sup>10</sup> *Humphrey Sandford*. B.A., 1880; M.A., 1883; won the Colquhoun sculls, and was in the winning boat in the University fours and pairs in 1878.

Year.	Name.	College.	University.
1887	Joseph Robinson Orford <sup>1</sup>	King's	Cambridge.
1888	Colin Basil Peter Bell <sup>2</sup>	Trinity Hall	Cambridge.
1889	Colin Basil Peter Bell	Trinity Hall	Cambridge.
1891	John Vaudrey Braddon, <sup>3</sup> cox'n.	Trinity Hall	Cambridge.
1892	John Vaudrey Braddon, cox'n.	Trinity Hall	Cambridge.
1894	Edward Grosvenor Tew <sup>4</sup>	Magdalen	Oxford.

## FOOTBALL.

Mention has been made in a former chapter of the abhorrence with which Dr. Butler regarded football,<sup>5</sup> and of the difficulties under which the boys used to labour of finding a field in which they could play the game without being interrupted by the interference of its owner, or by the inopportune arrival of the Rev. Arthur Willis mounted on his chestnut pony. The only playground of their own in which Shrewsbury boys could possibly play football was the small field below the Ball Courts, and this was in full view of the Head Master's windows. But probably their delight in the game was enhanced, rather than lessened, by the existence of these difficulties; and, somehow or other, there was a good deal of football played in the later years of Dr. Butler's head-mastership by G. C. Uppleby, Robert Phayre, Edgar Montagu, Lewis Denman, and other athletes of the school. Some of these devoted football players were instrumental shortly afterwards in starting a football club at Cambridge and drawing up rules, which were framed with the view of enabling players from other schools to join the club on fairly equal terms. One year Shrewsbury men up at Cambridge managed to get together fifteen players for a match against a Rugby twenty-five, and the match ended in a draw, neither side kicking a goal.

<sup>1</sup> *Joseph Robinson Orford.* Porson Prize, 1885; Browne Medal, 1885; fourth Classic, 1885; called to the Bar, 1890; M.A., 1896.

<sup>2</sup> *C. B. P. Bell* left Cambridge without taking a degree.

<sup>3</sup> *John Vaudrey Braddon.* B.A., 1895; called to the Bar, 1894.

<sup>4</sup> *Edward Grosvenor Tew.* B.A., 1895.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Butler's sentiments about football take various forms of expression in the recollections of Old Salopians. He is said to have described football on one occasion as "only fit for butcher boys," and on another, as "more fit for farm boys and labourers than for young gentlemen."



The next year saw a renewal of the contest, "Old Salopians *versus* Old Rugbeians," but this time both sides mustered twenty-five players. The result was again a draw, each side obtaining two goals.

From the time Dr. Kennedy was made Head Master, and the Coton Hill field was provided by him as the boys' playground for all purposes, the difficulties in the way of playing football disappeared. At once it was recognized as one of the organized school games, and after a time it became the most important among them. Three times a week during the season a "douling" game was instituted, in which all boarders who were not specially exempted on medical grounds were expected to take part. This practice of "douling" to football was allowed by the school authorities, but the severity or leniency with which the "douling" was exercised depended much on the discretion of the football captain for the time being.

The popularity, however, which football has now for many years enjoyed at Shrewsbury did not come all at once. There is no doubt that Dr. Butler's opposition to games produced a remarkable and far-reaching effect upon the school. Boating, football, and the runs were all carried on for years during his head-mastership in the face of his opposition, and in spite of established regulations. Thus it became a cherished tradition of school life that one of the keenest pleasures connected with games arose out of their illegality.

Dr. Kennedy, as we have seen, legalised boating soon after he came to Shrewsbury in 1836. But he only permitted it to be carried on within rather narrow limits; and one of the pleasures of boating in his early years was undoubtedly derived from an occasional disregard of these limits. The runs furnish a still stronger example. For twenty years they were carried on in defiance of all regulations as to "bounds," and after they had been at last formally recognized by the Head Master on certain conditions, to which the præpostors gave their written assent, within a year the conditions were calmly set aside on the principle that "stolen fruit is always the sweetest," and the old runs "out



of bounds" were once more resumed by the R.S.S.H. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that for some years after the old difficulties in the way of football had been removed the game was neither flourishing nor popular. But about 1846 or 1847, for some unexplained reasons, it began once more to excite a keen interest among Shrewsbury boys, an interest which they retained subsequently at Oxford and Cambridge. Between 1854 and 1860 there were few better players at Cambridge than Shrewsbury men. Some of them shared with Etonians and Carthusians the credit due to expert dribbling, and many of them were vigorous forward players. No eleven would have been considered representative of Cambridge football in those days without a sprinkling of Shrewsbury men. And since that time the game has never been allowed to languish at Shrewsbury.

In the course of the year 1861 some old Cambridge friends, resident in Shropshire, who had learned their football at Charterhouse or Harrow, and had kept it up with vigour and success on Parker's Piece afterwards, were venturous enough to get up an eleven to play the school at football. The experiment thus made was often repeated in subsequent years, and these matches did much to foster and improve football at Shrewsbury.

Many Old Salopians will remember what a number of brilliant football players the school produced between 1860 and 1870. But it was not till the season of 1876-77 that Shrewsbury played its first football match with another school eleven. Since that time many other matches have been played, some with Rossall, some with Repton, and some with Malvern. In these matches the results have been on the whole decidedly favourable to Shrewsbury. The most distinctive features of the game, as formerly played at Shrewsbury, were these:—

(1) There was no crossbar between the goal posts, and a ball kicked between the posts counted as a goal, however high it went.

(2) The offside rule was strict, and no loitering was allowed between the ball and the opponents' goal.

(3) A free punt or drop kick was allowed to any player who fairly caught the ball in his arms or hands after it had been kicked by one of his opponents and before it touched the ground. After 1864 it was entirely forbidden to touch the ball with the hands, except for the purpose of making a catch, under penalty of a free kick to the other side.

At the present time Shrewsbury football is played entirely according to Association rules.

Results of matches played between Shrewsbury and other schools :—<sup>1</sup>

Season.		Number of goals.	
		For.	Against.
1876-1877	Shrewsbury drew with Uppingham	0 ...	0
1888-1889	Shrewsbury beat Rossall	3 ...	1
1889-1890	Shrewsbury beat Rossall	4 ...	1
1890-1891	Shrewsbury beat Rossall	6 ...	1
1891-1892	Shrewsbury beat Rossall	15 ...	1
1892-1893	No school match	... ..	...
1893-1894	Repton beat Shrewsbury	2 ...	1
1894-1895	Shrewsbury beat Repton	3 ...	1
1895-1896	Shrewsbury drew with Repton	2 ...	2
1895-1896	Shrewsbury drew with Malvern	2 ...	2
1896-1897	Shrewsbury beat Malvern	1 ...	0
1896-1897	Shrewsbury drew with Repton	2 ...	2
1897-1898	Repton beat Shrewsbury	2 ...	0
1897-1898	Shrewsbury beat Malvern	3 ...	1

#### CRICKET.

It is uncertain at what time the school eleven first began to play cricket matches with neighbouring clubs; but the custom of doing so certainly prevailed during the greater part of Dr. Kennedy's time.<sup>2</sup> For one of the earliest and most regular of these matches the boys were indebted to Mr. Eyton, of Wellington. Other clubs with which the school eleven used occasionally to contend were Wem, Bridgnorth,

<sup>1</sup> The prosperity of football at Shrewsbury during the last twenty-five years is further shown by the facts that, since 1874, the year in which the first inter-university match was played under Association rules, nineteen Shrewsbury men have taken part in the annual contest. Several of these have also gained international honours.

<sup>2</sup> The scores in the matches played by the school eleven in 1842 and 1843 are preserved in a manuscript volume presented to the school library in 1898.

Newport, and Wenlock. Home and home matches with two different clubs were permitted during the cricket season, one of the conditions of the out matches being that a master should accompany the eleven. But his presence did not always prevent the occurrence of evils similar to those against which Dr. Kennedy had to contend in the cases of "hounds' slays," "leaving breakfasts," and other school institutions. And when it was proposed, about 1864, that the out matches should be altogether given up, and that no limitation should in the future be put on the number of home matches to be played during the season, provided they were played on half-holidays, and did not begin till after second lesson, Dr. Kennedy gladly agreed to the change, which was all the more welcome from the fact that the proposal emanated from the captain of the Cricket Club. About the same time, or perhaps a year or two later, arrangements were made for the boys to play their matches on the ground belonging to the Shropshire Cricket Club, which, besides being nearer to the school, was, of course, kept in much better order than was possible with the Coton Hill playground.

But although Shrewsbury did turn out some good cricketers in Dr. Kennedy's time, among whom "Teddy Dowson" occupied the most prominent place, only three of them ever found their way into a university eleven, S. N. Micklethwait, William Inge, and E. L. Horne. At the present time Shrewsbury can boast a cricket ground which is probably truer, as well as more extensive, than that possessed by any other public school. The first occasion on which Shrewsbury ever played cricket against another school was in 1854, when a match between the Shrewsbury and Birmingham elevens resulted in a "draw." No other school match was played before 1871, except one in 1866 with Bradfield, of which the details are not forthcoming, when Shrewsbury was easily beaten.

Since 1870 a match has been played nearly every year either with Malvern or with Rossall. On one occasion also, when the Uppingham boys had migrated temporarily to



SCHOOL CRICKET FIELD





Borth, there was a match between their eleven and Shrewsbury. The results of all these school matches, which have been for the most part unfavourable to Shrewsbury, are as follows :—

Year.	Result.	Score.								
1854	Drawn match. Birmingham lost no wicket in the second inning . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 75</td></tr><tr><td>{ Birmingham</td><td>{ 131</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 94</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 16</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 75	{ Birmingham	{ 131		{ 94		{ 16
{ Shrewsbury	{ 75									
{ Birmingham	{ 131									
	{ 94									
	{ 16									
1866	Bradfield beat Shrewsbury easily . . . . .	.....								
1871	Malvern won by five wickets . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 108</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 90</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 128</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 75</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 108	{ Malvern	{ 90		{ 128		{ 75
{ Shrewsbury	{ 108									
{ Malvern	{ 90									
	{ 128									
	{ 75									
1874 <sup>1</sup>	Malvern won by ten wickets . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 54</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 58</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 110</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 3</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 54	{ Malvern	{ 58		{ 110		{ 3
{ Shrewsbury	{ 54									
{ Malvern	{ 58									
	{ 110									
	{ 3									
1875	Malvern won in one inning, with 101 runs to spare . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 26</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 118</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>246</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 26	{ Malvern	{ 118		246		
{ Shrewsbury	{ 26									
{ Malvern	{ 118									
	246									
1876	Uppingham won in one inning, with forty-six runs to spare . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 83</td></tr><tr><td>{ Uppingham</td><td>{ 78</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>208</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 83	{ Uppingham	{ 78		208		
{ Shrewsbury	{ 83									
{ Uppingham	{ 78									
	208									
1876	Malvern won by one wicket . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 92</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 82</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 65</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 112</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 92	{ Malvern	{ 82		{ 65		{ 112
{ Shrewsbury	{ 92									
{ Malvern	{ 82									
	{ 65									
	{ 112									
1877	Malvern won by 179 runs . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 55</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 32</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 119</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 148</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 55	{ Malvern	{ 32		{ 119		{ 148
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1878	Malvern won in one inning, with 117 runs to spare . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 17</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 31</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>166</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 17	{ Malvern	{ 31		166		
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1879 <sup>1</sup>	Malvern won in one inning . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 32</td></tr><tr><td>{ Malvern</td><td>{ 88</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>121</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 32	{ Malvern	{ 88		121		
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1882	Drawn match. Shrewsbury lost eight wickets in the second inning . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 99</td></tr><tr><td>{ Rossall</td><td>{ 88</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>205</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 99	{ Rossall	{ 88		205		
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1884	Rossall won by ten wickets . . . . .	<table><tr><td>{ Shrewsbury</td><td>{ 46</td></tr><tr><td>{ Rossall</td><td>{ 137</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 146</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>{ 39</td></tr></table>	{ Shrewsbury	{ 46	{ Rossall	{ 137		{ 146		{ 39
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<sup>1</sup> No school match was played in 1872, 1873, 1880, or 1881.



have played in the university match are only seven in number :—

Sotheron Nathaniel Micklethwait, <sup>1</sup> Magdalene College, Cambridge	1843
Charles Thomas Calvert, <sup>2</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge	1848
William Inge, <sup>3</sup> Worcester College, Oxford	1853
Edward Larkin Horne, <sup>4</sup> Clare Hall, Cambridge	1855, 1857, 1858
George Kemp, <sup>5</sup> Trinity College, Cambridge	1885, 1886, 1888
George Barkley Raikes, <sup>6</sup> Magdalen College, Oxford	1894, 1895
John Burrough, <sup>7</sup> Jesus College, Cambridge	1895

#### ATHLETIC SPORTS.

Organized meetings for athletic sports are of comparatively modern origin, both at the universities and at the public schools. The Royal Military Academy at Woolwich seems to have set the first example of such a meeting in 1849. Exeter College, Oxford, followed suit in 1850, and Kensington Grammar School in 1852.<sup>8</sup> The Shrewsbury "May Races," by which name the annual school meeting for athletic sports was known for many years, were in existence as early as 1840, but for a long time they remained races and nothing more. They have always been under the management of the officials of the Hunt, and were originally called the R.S. Hunt Races. Even before 1840, and probably in Dr. Butler's time, races of a less formal character appear to have taken place in the cricket field at Coton Hill. But the first race meeting of which distinct evidence is obtainable was held in the field below the Ball Courts in 1840. On this occasion the chief race was called "The Derby," and its

<sup>1</sup> *S. N. Micklethwait*. Born 1823; B.A., 1846; M.A., 1850; ordained, 1848; Vicar of Hickling, Norfolk, 1849–1884. Died March 25th, 1889.

<sup>2</sup> *C. T. Calvert*. B.A., 1848; M.A., 1851; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1851.

<sup>3</sup> *W. Inge*. Provost of Worcester College, Oxford.

<sup>4</sup> *E. L. Horne*. At Shrewsbury School, 1849–1854; B.A. (thirty-fifth Wrangler), 1858; M.A., 1861; curate of Great Dunmow, 1859–1861; curate of Great Waltham, 1864; Vicar of Whissendine, Rutland, 1864.

<sup>5</sup> *George Kemp*. B.A. (2nd class in Classical Tripos) 1888; M.P. for Heywood Division of Lancashire, 1895.

<sup>6</sup> *G. B. Raikes*. B.A., 1895.

<sup>7</sup> *John Burrough*. B.A., 1895; ordained, 1896; curate of Whitton, Cheshire, 1896.

<sup>8</sup> See the Badminton volume on athletic sports.



winner is said to have been a boy named Kearsley. The programme for the "Hunt Races" of 1843 has been preserved. It comprises six "events," including a hurdle race. The meeting took place on February 25th, and was under the management of R. W. Kenyon and E. Tyley as "stewards," Frank Parker as "clerk of the course," and R. W. Kenyon as "judge." According to the writers of the treatise on athletic sports in the Badminton series, steeplechases at Shrewsbury are to be heard of soon after 1837. But the first steeplechase of which any mention is made in the run books took place on April 12th, 1845.<sup>1</sup> Since that time it has been an annual occurrence at the school. Formerly it was the custom to make considerable preparations for a week or two before the steeplechase took place, the hedges being thickened and the brooks dammed in order to increase the difficulties of the course. About 1858 a second steeplechase was instituted for the younger boys, under the title of the "junior steeplechase." Both these contests were popular at Shrewsbury, and used to attract many Old Salopians and other friends of the school to the Berwick Road on the days when they were fixed to be run. The first "May Races," which can properly be described as a meeting for athletic sports, took place in 1854. The programme in that year included hurdle races, long jump, high jump, throwing the cricket ball, and sack races.

#### VOLUNTEERS.

An account has been given in one of the earlier chapters of this book of a great military display which was made in 1582 by the scholars of Shrewsbury School for the entertainment of Sir Henry Sidney. The whole school at the time seems to have composed one big volunteer corps.

<sup>1</sup> In the winter of 1835-36, or possibly a year or two earlier, a point-to-point cross-country steeplechase was arranged among the "gentlemen" of the R.S.S.H. Unfortunately the Old Salopian who remembers it was not one of the competitors, being a "hound" at the time, and is unable to say much of the details. But in company with many other boys he saw the "finish" at a little inn on the Chester Road. The starting point had been the cricket field, and the distance covered was about three miles. The runners came in in two lots, having taken different courses across country.



SCHOOL CHALLENGE CUPS



On May 2nd, the day appointed for the display, the boys marched from the school in battle order, 370 strong, under the command of their general and captains, with drums beating, trumpets sounding, and flags waving, to a large field in the Abbey Foregate, known as *The Geye*. Here Sir Henry had already taken up his position, mounted on a "lusty courser," and the boys proceeded at once to form themselves into a hollow square, with the Lord President and his company in the centre. Various orations were then made by the general and some of his captains, declaring the full resolve of all to fight valiantly in defence of their country; and Sir Henry, in reply, not only expressed the great pleasure the display had given him, but highly complimented the masters on the eloquence of the speeches he had heard from the officers of the boy volunteers.<sup>1</sup>

More than two hundred years later England was once more threatened by a serious danger, and we again hear of volunteers in connection with Shrewsbury School.

In the year 1803 the news that a French camp was being formed at Boulogne, and that vast preparations were in progress on the other side of the Channel with the evident intention of making a serious attempt to land an army on our coasts, caused a general outburst of military spirit throughout England, and volunteer corps were formed in every direction.

The new Head Master had not as yet been long enough at work to bring back to Shrewsbury School the numbers and reputation which it enjoyed at the time when Sir Henry Sidney reviewed the school volunteers of 1582 in *The Geye*. But still there were boys enough in the school to form two companies of volunteers, one of "dismounted cavalry," under the command of Captain Evans,<sup>2</sup> and the other of infantry, under Captain Gilby.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See the *Taylor MS.*

<sup>2</sup> There were four boys named Evans in the school at the time, all of them sons of Dr. Evans, of the Council House. The captain of the *dismounted cavalry* was probably *John Evans*, the eldest of the four, who graduated at Clare Hall, Cambridge, in 1809, as sixth Wrangler, and afterwards became a fellow of his college.

<sup>3</sup> *Captain William Robinson Gilby*, who was seventh Wrangler in the same year as John Evans, was of Trinity College, and also gained a fellowship.



The school volunteers are said to have been fully armed, and an interesting account has been preserved of the ceremonious presentation of colours to the two companies on September 26th, 1803. Miss Evans, a Warwickshire young lady, who was probably a near relation of Dr. Evans, of the Council House, in Shrewsbury, the father of one of the boy captains, made the presentation to the *cavalry*, and Miss Kynnersley, of Leighton, to the *infantry*. The cornet and the ensign, who received the colours from the hands of their captains after the presentation had been made, were William Gryffydd Oakeley, of Tan-y-bwlch, and Valentine Vickers, of Cranmere, near Bridgnorth.

Once again since that time has a volunteer corps been formed at Shrewsbury School. This was in 1860.<sup>1</sup> The corps numbered about eighty strong. The volunteers were supplied with disused carbines, which answered fairly well for purposes of instruction in the manual and platoon exercises. A fife-and-drum band was attached to the corps, and, under the efficient teaching of Bandmaster Hay, used to play very spirited music, which was highly appreciated by the boys, though perhaps it was not so popular among the people who lived in the immediate neighbourhood of the schools.

Unfortunately the corps never possessed rifles, and the boys had no opportunity of learning to shoot. Company drill and long marches into the country with the band in attendance were pleasant novelties for a time; but the interest which the boys took in them at first soon began to flag, and after two or three years the corps died a natural death.

#### FANCY DRESS BALLS.

In a former chapter mention has been made of a fancy dress ball as one of the entertainments connected with the Tercentenary celebration in 1851. But this was by no means the first appearance of that somewhat curious form of

<sup>1</sup> The corps made its first appearance in public on December 5th, 1860. The first officers, who were chosen by popular election, were E. Calvert, M.A., captain; G. W. Fisher, M.A., lieutenant; and H. R. A. Johnson, ensign. The school volunteers paraded for the last time on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales, when they took part in the municipal procession.

amusement at Shrewsbury School. For several years after Dr. Kennedy became Head Master the boys had been allowed as a general rule to have a fancy dress ball at some time shortly before the Christmas or Midsummer holidays.<sup>1</sup> It took the place of the annual play at Christmas, which had been the great school festival in Dr. Butler's time and a very popular entertainment. Some carping critics, however, had spoken of Shrewsbury boys as no better than *strolling players*, and the new Head Master was unfortunately somewhat oversensitive of criticism. So the annual play was given up and the fancy dress ball was started instead.

For some time before the day fixed for the ball it was the custom for Mr. Bourlay, the dancing master, to go to the different halls two or three times a week to give the boys lessons in his art. On the day of the ball the assistance of the town hairdresser and some of the maids in the different houses was procured, and those boys who seemed best adapted to play the *rôle* were dressed up as girls. Old Salopians who remember these balls describe them as "amusing and pleasant." But the fancy dress ball expired as a school institution in 1846, though temporarily revived in 1851 in honour of the Tercentenary.

In the following year, 1847, the boys had for their annual entertainment a performance by a company of Ethiopian serenaders, whose songs were then quite a novelty, and this was probably much more to the taste of the majority among them than the fancy dress ball would have been. On one subsequent occasion, December 6th, 1848, *the Play*, which had been so long a feature of Shrewsbury school life, was revived in the modified form of *acted charades*. The same year, 1846, in which the fancy dress balls came to an end saw also the death of another school institution, which dated back to Butler's earliest years, the annual *speech day*. But happily the speech day has risen again from its ashes during the last few years, and brings every summer to the beautiful school

<sup>1</sup> An Old Salopian who was at school 1839-42 does not remember any fancy dress ball being given in his time. But there is no doubt that the ball took place in 1843 and in subsequent years up to 1847.

grounds on Kingsland a goodly assemblage of Old Salopians and other distinguished persons. Perhaps on these occasions it would be an advantage if there were more speeches from the boys and fewer from the visitors. Schoolboys are rarely quite contented with their lot, and latter-day Salopians have sometimes been heard to whisper *sotto voce* that they have almost heard enough about Sir Philip Sidney. But speech day is an excellent institution, even though Old Salopians who revisit Shrewsbury on these occasions may sometimes be tempted when they look around them to ask, "Why did not these changes come in our days?"

Pleasant it is too to all who cherish affectionate recollections of their old school home on Castle Hill, in spite of its many inconveniences and drawbacks, to recognize the praiseworthy efforts that have been made to keep up old school traditions under such altered circumstances. Many of the stones of the walls which bounded School Gardens, engraved with the names of generations of former scholars, have been carefully removed to Kingsland, and now help to form a connecting link between the past and the present. Old Salopians cannot remember much that was beautiful or interesting in John Meighen's school chapel, but the little that deserves to be called either the one or the other has been preserved. The oaken pulpit still serves its old purpose at Kingsland, and the fine carved woodwork that once formed a screen at the entrance of the old chapel is now to be seen at the western end of the new. But some institutions have vanished. *Bat fives* is a game unknown to the present generation of Shrewsbury boys, and yet it was an excellent game, and had probably been played at Shrewsbury for at least a hundred years.

Seven courts for *hand fives*, built on the well-known Eton model, two of which are covered in with glass and are consequently available in wet weather, have, it is true, been provided at Kingsland; and on one of these courts a match was played for the first time in 1897 between Shrewsbury and Uppingham.<sup>1</sup> Still, old Salopians may reasonably ask, "But why not a court for *bat fives* as well?"

<sup>1</sup> The Uppingham boys were the victors, as they were also in a second match played at Uppingham in 1898.





PART OF OLD SCHOOL WALL RE-ERECTED AT KINGSLAND





It is possible that boys of the present day still occasionally settle their little differences in the old boyish fashion, of which we know Dr. Butler at heart approved, although his pupils were probably mistaken in their belief that he was often a secret spectator of their fights from one of the windows of his house. But there is no fear that the renewal of the game of *bat fives* would resuscitate those sanguinary instincts which were wont to find their vent in the old Ball Courts in the days when fights are said to have numbered seventy a week, and when few mornings passed without John Bandy making his appearance in the amphitheatre at nine o'clock to warn the spectators that time was up, and that they must go in to breakfast.

Another school institution, which was interesting from its antiquity, had become a thing of the past before the migration to Kingsland. This is the custom of *chorusing* on the last four Saturdays before the Midsummer and Christmas holidays. There is no doubt that the practice dates as far back as the early years of the present century, and it is believed that Shrewsbury borrowed it from Rugby. An old traditional story of Dr. Butler has been handed down, which proves, at any rate, that he did not disapprove of *chorusing*. A gentleman who lived in the immediate neighbourhood of the school came one day during the *chorusing* season to complain that he was seriously disturbed in the evenings by the singing of the boys. The Doctor listened attentively; but perhaps the complainant was somewhat peremptory in his manner. However this may have been, the reply which he received was not couched in language as courteous and conciliatory as that which was commonly employed by the Head Master in his intercourse with his Shrewsbury neighbours. "What!" he exclaimed, "my boys not sing? But my boys shall sing." Then the bell was rung, and the gentleman was shown to the door.

Shrewsbury boys seem to have been as conservative in the matter of songs<sup>1</sup> as they were in other traditional habits and

<sup>1</sup> A song, for example, which was added to the list after a visit from a company of Ethiopian serenaders in 1847, "There was an old nigger, and his name was Uncle Ned," was always unacceptable to many of the boys on account of its novelty.

customs, and the following list of *chorusing* songs, which belongs to 1850 or thereabouts, undoubtedly contains most of the songs which had been sung on the Saturday evenings immediately preceding the holidays for at least twenty-five years previously, and which continued to be sung for twenty-five years afterwards :—

1. "Spankedillo, Spankedillo, the prince of jolly fellows."
2. "Troll, troll, the jolly brown bowl."
3. "In good King Arthur's reign."
4. "The Pope, he leads a happy life."
5. "Here's a health to all good lasses."
6. "Three jolly post-boys drinking at the Dragon."
7. "Begone, dull care."
8. "Come, cheer up, my lads."
9. "Gaily the troubadour."
10. "Away with melancholy."
11. "Old King Cole was a jolly old soul."
12. "Dame Durden."
13. "A frog he would a-wooing go."
14. "Weel may the keel row."
15. "Rule Britannia."
16. "God save our gracious Queen."

The songs in question are nearly all of them really good songs, and when a fair proportion of the boys had good voices, and were musically disposed, the practice of *chorusing* is said to have had its charms. But boys there would occasionally be, as might naturally be expected, who took a delight in introducing some offensive interpolation, or substituting some coarse expression for the genuine words of a song, and shouting out of the window their unauthorised additions with all the greater zest if they could be made to convey some allusion to an unpopular master, or to a school-fellow against whom they had a grudge. Various old Salopians of different generations have consequently retained an unfavourable impression of the *chorusing*, which does not seem to have been altogether deserved. But there is no doubt that, during the last few years of its existence, *chorusing* had become more noisy than musical, and when it was suppressed, about 1875, few were found to sorrow over its disappearance.

No account of traditional amusements at Shrewsbury could be considered complete which did not include some allusion to the strange delight which the boys used formerly to take in putting in an appearance on the racecourse during the time of the spring or autumn race meetings, even when they could only remain a few minutes, and had some five miles to run in order to secure their brief pleasure. Various were the means which were employed by the school authorities to keep them away. Not only were holidays, *extras*, and *excuses* never given in race week, but Tuesday and Thursday were made long-lesson days. "Douling" games at football were arranged every day between 10 a.m. and 11.30 a.m., second lesson being taken from 12 to 2 p.m., and for all boys who were "off douling" there was a "calling over" every half-hour in School Gardens. For the football players there was also a "calling over" in the cricket field about 10.30 a.m. Sometimes one of the shorter "runs," generally the Tucks,<sup>1</sup> was taken one day during the week, and boys were allowed to choose between football and "the run."

These checks and precautions mostly belong to a comparatively late period of school history. In earlier days an examination would sometimes be fixed for the race week, and a special "calling over" would occasionally be imposed. But, from the time when the Shrewsbury race meetings first began, boys who were inclined that way appear from all accounts to have rarely failed to manage a flying visit to the racecourse. Sometimes they must have accomplished a good deal more than this, for sporting Salopians who were at school more than fifty years ago may even now be sometimes heard to recount the many triumphs of Isaac, the old grey gelding, who had once been a coach-horse, or of Catharina, the indefatigable mare, who ran thirteen heats at one Shrewsbury meeting. But the difficulties and dangers, even in those days, were not inconsiderable. A book of Milton

<sup>1</sup> As a curious illustration of the tenacity with which schoolboys cling to traditional customs, even when all reason for their observance has passed away, it may be mentioned that at the present day, although the Shrewsbury race-meeting is no longer in existence, a "douling" game at football is always announced to be played on the day appointed for the so-called "Tucks Run."



awaited the sixth form boys, and a more substantial punishment was in all probability in reserve for their juniors, should either chance to be caught on their way to or from the race-course. So surely also as a boy made his appearance at third lesson during the races with hot face and untidy appearance, so surely would he be called up by the form master to construe, and a "shipping," with an extra amount of "penals" attached, would almost inevitably ensue. Old Salopians are still living who remember how on one occasion during the race week Henney, who was taking the sixth form for a Lucretius lesson, called up in turn Munro, the great Lucretian scholar of after days, and Morse, when both were hopelessly "shipped."

Sometimes the racegoers would take extra pains to avoid being caught on their way back to school, and instead of returning by the English bridge would make a short cut through the meadows opposite to the Castle, and cross the river in a boat awaiting their arrival. But these excitements have long been things of the past, for the Shrewsbury race-meetings themselves came to an end shortly after the migration of the school to Kingsland.

The May races, however, and steeplechases remained for many years witnesses of the attraction which the Shrewsbury horse-races had for the boys in former days. On the morning of the day fixed for either of these races to take place it was the custom to issue a programme arranged after the fashion of a race-card, the intending runners being entered under jocose names as horses, and the names of subscribers to the races being given as their owners and nominators.<sup>1</sup>

The so-called mile race also, which was the chief event of the May Races for many years after their foundation, seems almost from the first to have been described as "the Derby."<sup>2</sup> It was doubtless due, we may add, to the existence of race

<sup>1</sup> The jocose names were given up, so far as the athletic sports programmes were concerned, more than twenty years ago, but they continued to be used on the steeplechase cards up to the time of the school migration to Kingsland.

<sup>2</sup> There is evidence that one of the races was called "the Derby" in 1840 or 1841. But in the programme for 1843 we find the St. Leger stakes mentioned but no "Derby."

meetings at Shrewsbury that it became an established custom in the school in Dr. Butler's days to commemorate the two great horse-races of the year, the Derby and the St. Leger, by a general sweepstakes. The amount of each boy's stake was not large, nor was the practice one of which Dr. Butler would be likely to take a very severe view. At any rate there is no record of his having ever interfered with it. The St. Leger sweepstake was probably soon dropped; but the "Derby lottery," as the boys called it, seems to have been kept up during the whole of Dr. Kennedy's headmastership, and for some years afterwards, without any interference by the authorities.

Another old school institution, "boxing and singing," to which the short amount of time that was available on Friday evenings between tea and top schools in Jee's hall, and between top schools and bedtime in Doctor's hall, was formerly devoted, has been for some years a thing of the past. The proceedings in both halls were under the direction of "the hall constable," and were intended mainly to promote the discomfort of new boys, though now and then two older boys would condescend to put on the gloves.

The new boys' races, which used to take place on the first Monday after the holidays in School Gardens, are still carried on, though under more favourable circumstances and in a less confined space, at Kingsland.



## APPENDIX

### ASHTON'S LETTERS TO THE BAILIFFS.

NO date is given to this letter, which is still preserved among the Town Records, but internal evidence suggests that it was the first of the series. One only of the other letters is at present forthcoming, but they were all in existence in the time of Hotchkis, who has given copies or abstracts of them. The spelling has been modified in the following copy:—

“To the right worshipful Mr. Bailiffs, the Aldermen, the Common Council and the Burgesses of the Town of Salop.

“Whereas it hath pleased you heretofore to grant unto me the setting of the living appertaining to the Free School of this town after the leases be expired, for the maintenance of the said school for the term of my life. And whereas, in your such grant, I meant nothing less than to make the only stay of my living thereupon, but that rather I thought it should have been so granted that I might have been thereby a bar or let for the perpetual establishment of the same school against such, who, in time coming, might seek to make a spoil of the same, my request is therefore that you will grant me the setting of the living thereof as I shall think good to the use of the said school to some continuance for ever, with the further devising of all orders for the same,<sup>1</sup> and that any such device you will ratify and establish under your seal when the same shall be perfected.—As I will first be sworn not to alienate one penny thereof from the use of the said school, but that all that can be made of it shall be employed to the discharging of the wages of the school-masters thereof, the reparations of the same (which in few years will be no little thing) and further sustentation of your children going out of the same as the living will extend unto. And thereof

<sup>1</sup> As the Indenture of Elizabeth of May 23rd, 1571, expressly reserved to Ashton the power of making ordinances for the government of the school, it is evident that this letter was written between October, 1568, when the Bailiffs made him the grant to which he refers, and May, 1571.



yearly an account to be made to the Bailiffs, Aldermen and Common Council of the said town for the time being at their yearly audit. This is my request; consider of it as ye shall think good.

“Your servant and suppliant in this behalf,

“Thomas Asheton.”

“*Oct. 27th, 1573, from Chartley.*” Hotchkis gives an abstract of this letter. Ashton writes:—

“My Lord’s affairs and my Lady’s case is such as I cannot satisfy your request with my presence,” and adds that he is “entangled and tyed now by the Prince more streightly.” The chief purport of the letter was to threaten the Bailiffs that he would discharge himself of all further care about the school, and refer it to Mr. Lawrence, then Head Master.—Ashton complains that he had been reflected on for charging £6 for his expenses in London and Cambridge in consultation about the Indenture and Ordinances.—He tells the Bailiffs that with the first money that should come in they must buy an iron chest, and that they must call on his servant David Longdon to give security.

The next letter to which Hotchkis refers is dated *Nov. 7th, 1573.*

Ashton tells the Bailiffs that if they would agree at a Common Hall to alter the ordinances, and that what was to go to poor artificers or poor scholars in the university should be converted to the finding of a Third Master, and frame orders accordingly, he would be willing to agree to whatsoever they should think good. . . . Else, he would frame ordinances himself and appoint a third schoolmaster. . . .

“*Feb. 20th, 157 $\frac{3}{4}$ .*”

“Whereas your Worships have requested me to alter the Orders for the Assistant and to place a second Schoolmaster who may have yearly for these Six Years Sixteen Pounds, without respect of a dead Stock for the School, the use whereof the poor Artificers of the Town should have had, I have agreed to your request, and as time will serve have satisfied the same. If you like of it you may ingrosse it and annex it to the former Schedules. If you mislike it, correct it as you think good. I will set my Hand unto it as most of you shall agree thereupon. My Life is short and therefore I would it were done out of Hand. Yet as my Duty requireth I will give you some Reason of my doing. Seeing your

minds be to have the School's Money to serve only the School's use (Howsoever pity moved me to apply it otherwise) I have now done the same, yet reserving a Surplusage still, first, to the use of the School to be first served; after, as it will appear by the Orders, I reserve the Surplusage to this end, to have provision made in either University for such your Children as come out of the same School thither: for you see how the poor are forced to give over their Learning and Study, for that they can have no place in neither University, in any Colledge, in default neither the Shire nor the School aforetime hath made provision therefore. Seeing then you will have all applied to the School use, I agree thereto, and have made Surplusage first, to serve that use, neither have disannulled the Orders in the Schedules before (that only excepted of the Assistant) but reserved them to the time when the Schoolmasters are all first discharged. My reason I make or would make so large a Surplusage is this. I think all that may arise of the School's Rent is too much to go to the Salaries of the three Schoolmasters, and the Reparations of the School, for if one Schoolmaster have in the end £40, another £20, the third £10, I think no School in England hath a Salary exceeding this. And seeing we exceed others, Let us know when we be well. The principal care then is to make provision for those which shall go out from this School, for their further Learning and Study, and if the Town be benefited by the School, should not the Children rejoice to help their Fathers? And now for the dead Stock of the School of £200, this is my reason. You know that the School is old and inclining to Ruin, also casualty of Fire may happen. The Stock is ever ready without hindering the Town to build a new School. Yet this was not only my reason, which now I will declare unto you. I have considered many times with myself in what an Evil Place the School doth stand in, both for place of Easement whereby the Fields is abused to the annoyance of them that pass by there, as also for that they cannot have access thither, but that it must be by the Prisoners, whereby great Inconvenience cometh. My meaning therefore was in time to have bought that plot of ground St Andrew Corbett hath on the other side of the Street, and to have builded a fair School there with the dead Stock of the School, and to have had a door through the Town Walls, and Stairs or Steps with great Stones down to Severn, where a fair House of Office might have been made, &c.

Thomas Asheton."

*"Feb. 12th, 1574.*

Ashton says that he has been complained of for setting a tithe to his man.<sup>1</sup> . . . In reference to the masters' stipends, he declares . . . "I have made their wages with the best of the schools in England, and it is reasonable they should live upon the same, and, if they be diligent, something will come in besides." . . . He adds : "I marvel what the magistrates and heads of the town did mean to make such ado to have the Orders altered, and afterwards to be so careful to let it lie unfinished. Before God, if you look not better to it, I will alter all anew. My credit is not so much lost, but, if it be thought I have done what I can, and by law am barred to go any further, and, by that is done, some holes be espied to creep in at, to make a spoil, I will work upon my credit what I can to prevent it, whatsoever it cost me. It shall but make me take such livings which now are offered, to bear the charges thereof, and to give them over when I have done. Therefore I pray you, good Mr. Bailiffs, let me know your minds herein that I may in time work accordingly. Thus, with my hearty commendations and good wishes, I leave,

Yr assured, Thomas Asheton."

*"May 10th, 1576.*

To Mr. Lloyd }  
Mr. Okell } Bailiffs.

". . . It is not unknown to you, how at the motion of Mr. Bailiffs, then from the Aldermen, Common Council and Burgesses, I altered the first Orders, which, then being read amongst you, was signified to me of the good liking of the same and that they should be put to engrossing. But I understand it is not done, notwithstanding I have yearly written to the Bailiffs succeeding and never had answer thereof, or cause set down of the stay of the same. I know not what meaning may be in some to the overthrow of the School thereby, but this I promise ; before it shall be any longer deferred, seeing the thing done stands now undone, I will take a new course, both to defeat the purpose of those ill-meaners, and establish the thing more surely for learning, though less beneficial for the Town hereafter. Pray, let me know what you will do. . . ."

<sup>1</sup> Ashton refers of course to David Longdon, the first School Bailiff, to whom he had given the reversion of the lease of the tithes of Frankwell and Betton.



*May 22nd, 1576.*

To Mr. Lloyd }  
 Mr. Okell } Bailiffs.

Ashton reminds them that he had before complained of their delays, two years and more, and then continues . . . "Now, receiving your letter whereby I find you so ready to work all to the best, I am glad of it, and after I can come to the sight of the Tripartite Indenture (which I will send for or fetch from Cambridge) and have taken further counsel with the learned of the Law, you shall shortly after understand what I will say to these Orders and platform of the school sent to me by you, for seeing you will have the other taken from the Indenture, as reason is, the perusing, correcting and altering of these now, and adding as shall be thought good, requires time to consider thereof, which God advise. . . ."

*June 10th, 1576.*

To David Lloyd }  
 John Okell } Bailiffs.

It appears from this letter that the Bailiffs had written to press Ashton to come to Shrewsbury for the full establishment of things pertaining to the school, and he now replies that he could not come till he had spoken once again with her Majesty.

ASHTON'S FINAL LETTER TO THE BAILIFFS.<sup>1</sup>*"May 15th, 1577.**"Right Worshipfull,*

*"When that charge of yo<sup>r</sup> schole yo<sup>u</sup> trusted me wi<sup>th</sup> all, I upon just consideracon, forced wi<sup>th</sup> sykenes, remitted the same againe, to be perfected, to worshipful wise learned discrete personages, whose credytt and iudgment might both wynne to the mater more maiestie and p<sup>'</sup>cure y<sup>t</sup> more credit than y<sup>t</sup> ever could have had by myne owne private doing: and perusing ther travailes therein fynd y<sup>t</sup> so substanciallie gone throughe w<sup>th</sup> all, that I have iust cause geavan me to lyke and allowe of the same, I do both signifie unto yo<sup>u</sup> my good lyking of ther labours and also most earnestlie do wische yo<sup>u</sup> to consent to the same, that the thing w<sup>th</sup> all speede may have his perfection. And thinke and persuade y<sup>r</sup>selffe this that y<sup>t</sup> was the good providence of God w<sup>ch</sup> made yo<sup>u</sup> committ the credit of such a mater to a weake person at the first whos purposed power*

<sup>1</sup> *Blakeway MS.* The original is among the town records.



shuld geave streingth to the same at the last. And so lastlie I leave yo<sup>u</sup> ever to be gyded w<sup>th</sup> God's most holie spirit in all yo<sup>r</sup> affaires, that all faction sett apart, yo<sup>u</sup> loke w<sup>th</sup> a sygle eye to yo<sup>r</sup> gou'ment, that God's wrathe pacified, yo<sup>u</sup> may enioye the fruites of blessed concorde w<sup>th</sup> great contentacioun of mynd in this world, and the participacon of immortalitie promised in another world for which I continue dailie praing w<sup>th</sup> all fervencye of spirit vnto death that God may geave yo<sup>u</sup> the spirit of wisdom in all knowledge of himselffe, and lighten the eyes of yo<sup>r</sup> mynd to see the hope yo<sup>u</sup> are called vnto and to see the excedyng riches of the inheritance provided for the sancts, ffare you well fro keiston<sup>1</sup> the XV May, 1577.

"Yo<sup>rs</sup> as ever, Thomas Asheton.

"To the right wo<sup>r</sup>shipfull Mr. John Dawes and Mr. Richard Owen Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, to the Aldermen and common Counsell of the same."

LETTER FROM SIR GEORGE BROMLEY TO THE  
BAILIFFS ABOUT THE SCHOOL ORDINANCES.<sup>2</sup>

"Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, 1577.

"My most hearty commendations unto you remembered. I understand by my friend Mr. Asheton that you make some question whether any sums of money which should rise upon the revenues of the lands granted for the maintenance of the School might be employed for the purchasing of lands for Scholarships and Fellowships in the University in such sort as is set down by the Ordinances of the School which I lately penned. These are to let you understand that at the time I penned those Ordinances I had the sight, as well of the two Patents granted by King Edward VI., as of those granted by the Queen's Majesty that now is, and then it seemed to me that those Ordinances (whereof buying of Scholarships and Fellowships in the University for the maintenance of such as should come from that School is one) might be well enough performed and done without any danger of forfeiture or prejudice to the said two Patents, whereof I have thought good to advertise you. And thus, wishing you most heartily well to fare, I commit you to God.—From my house at Hallon, the 9<sup>th</sup> of January, 1577.

"Your assured loving friend, "George Bromley."

<sup>1</sup> Keiston was a manor house in Huntingdonshire belonging to the Earl of Essex, whither Ashton had gone from Cambridge to recruit his health.

<sup>2</sup> This letter is among the town records.

LETTER FROM THOMAS ASHTON TO  
LORD BURLEIGH.

"My very good Lord,

"I know not in what part you did take my boldness concerning my friend Browne<sup>1</sup> whom I neither see nor heard of since. The same spirit moveth me eftsoones (whether I will or no) to the like boldness. I have travelled since Banister<sup>2</sup> his apprehending in sundry counties especially where he had doing under the Duke.<sup>3</sup> The people in general in these parts with the greatest part of those also that be of good port show in their countenance a misliking of the state and let not sometimes to utter the cankerdness of their hearts with the tongue, yet so that although the simple do it plainly,

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Browne was a draper of Shrewsbury, who, having occasion to go to London in August, 1571, was commissioned by Mr. Lawrence Banister, of Wem, steward of the Duke of Norfolk's estates in Shropshire and the neighbouring counties, and his chief legal adviser, to convey a present of butter to the Duke. Learning that Browne was returning shortly to Shrewsbury, it occurred to the Duke that a bag of gold, which had recently been sent to London by the King of France, might be forwarded through him to Banister, and thence sent on to Queen Mary's friends in Scotland. Browne readily undertook the commission, telling the Duke's secretary, however, that he should hand it over to the Shrewsbury carrier, who always conveyed his money. This "bag of money" led to the Duke's arrest, and ultimately to his execution. Froude and other historians allege that Browne, having suspicions, took the bag to the Council, and this is the story that the Attorney-General was instructed to tell at the Duke's trial. But it is certain from a letter which Browne wrote from Shrewsbury, on September 5th, to Banister that he had left London believing that the bag was safe in the carrier's possession. This letter is in the *Hatfield MSS.* At this time the bag had been in Cecil's possession for four or five days. The carrier was undoubtedly stopped and the bag seized. But how did Cecil get his clue? From his friend Ashton, it is plain. This was "the boldness concerning my friend Browne," to which Ashton alludes in the letter. Ashton had been in London for some time about the school business, and was in constant communication with Cecil and other members of the Council. Browne had a great respect for Ashton, and would be sure to seek him out in London, and being a vain, garrulous man, would be sure also to tell him about the Duke, the butter, and the bag of money. Ashton's suspicions are at once aroused, and he writes to Cecil without saying anything at all about his intentions to Browne. The whole subject is fully discussed in a paper in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society*.

<sup>2</sup> Lawrence Banister was arrested by Sir Andrew Corbet on September 6th at his own house at Wem, and was sent to London, where he was subjected to repeated examinations in September, October, and November, and was on one occasion "put to the rack."

<sup>3</sup> The Duke of Norfolk.

the other do it so cunningly, as no advantage can be taken of them. This dissembling would<sup>1</sup> be met withal, that their hope might be frustrate. The papists in this realm find too much favour in the Court. As long as that continueth practising<sup>2</sup> will never have end. The double faced gentlemen who will be protestants in the Court and in the country secret papists *frigidam suffundunt*.<sup>3</sup> The people I understand have been put in comfort of a change that now they stand but looking for one that would say *hisse*. And for that I see these counties most apt to evil counsel (as where the practising papists have most their conventicles) I wish that man under the prince ruler over them in Banister his steade,<sup>4</sup> whom both they fear, for the love he hath otherwise in the country, and also love for his good justice, and upright dealing with them in all things, as they have had a good experience of, Sir Andrew Corbett I mean, the only staid man, most secret, true, and faithfullest to his prince, I know in all these parts of the realm. And therefore I judge him the fittest man, for a charge wherein consisteth the stay of the country or any part of the preservation of the prince. I know he would never love me if he knew what I have written now: he seeks so much his quietness and loves to have no dealing in things. Now seeing I have discharged the duty of a faithful subject towards my prince in uttering my fear unto him whose head is encumbered with the care of the whole state, I most humbly crave, at your honour's hands, pardon of my boldness, and that when you have read these rude lines your honour will forthwith make a sacrifice of the same to Vulcan. For I would be loth any other should be privy to this my malapertness. God work with you as he hath done and give you long honourable life and health unto your noble heart's desire.

"Your honour's humble to command

"Thomas Asheton.<sup>5</sup>

"*From Charlecole the XXIII. of October 1571.*"

<sup>1</sup> Would for should.

<sup>2</sup> Practising for plotting.

<sup>3</sup> *Frigidam suffundunt*. Aquam is omitted. The people of "good port" did not show their disaffection openly like "the simple," but *poured cold water* on the existing government.

<sup>4</sup> Ashton evidently wishes that Sir Andrew Corbet might be put in charge of the Norfolk estates, should they be confiscated.

<sup>5</sup> Ashton's letter is twice quoted by Froude in his *History of England*, but the author was under the impression that he was one of Cecil's agents or spies.



THOMAS LAWRENCE'S FAREWELL LETTER TO  
THE BAILIFFS.

"July 19th, 1583.

"To the right worshipfull Mr. Wyllyam Tenche and Mr. Edwarde Owen, Bayliffes of the Town of Sallope.

"Right worshipfull Mr. Bayliffes, these are to gyve your worshippes to understande, that, whereas, I haue taken infynite paynes in this my publicke charge, now almost for the space of full xv years, and haue brought it, to as greate p'fection, as by my poore Learninge, and symple dyscretion I was able: am nowe at the lenthe soe wearied with the worke, soe tyred with the toyle and overwhelmed with care thereof, that I nether can nor wyll any longer space contynue in it. And therefore nowe by this my hande writinge, I unburden myselfe of my charge, I resigne it up whollye into your w. hands, in as floureshinge an estate (upon my credyte) as any schole in all Englande. The Revenues are greate, and verely well imployed: the statutes are good and surelye conformed: the buyldings are everywheare well repayred: the Schole with scholers is fullye furnished: the resort of straungers unto it is notable, and the p'fyttinge of the scholers (I prayse god) commendable. Yea, I haue, within these twelve yeares paste (*ut liceat mihi de meisq̃ aliquātulū gloriari*) throughe the blessinge of god: throughe my toyle in teachinge: and throughe theyre diligence in learninge, sente out of my schole aboue an hundred scolers to Cambridge and Oxforde, of the whiche a greate number at this day (god's name be prayسد for it) are as likelye men to prove good members in the churche of god, and worthie instruments in a Christian Commonwealthe,<sup>1</sup> as any whosoever or whearsoever. *Sed jam tandem post tot tantosque exantlatos labores*

*Quid pretii sperare licet? quæ dona reporto?*

*Nil: Nil: nec superest quicquam, quo vivere possum,*

*Quod superest ævi, si quid superesse volunt dī.*

<sup>1</sup> The phrase here used by Lawrence, "good members in the churche of god, and worthie instruments in a Christian Commonwealthe," so closely resembles a sentence in the form of Evening Prayer given in Chapter iii., "Bless, we beseech Thee, the labours of our Teachers . . . that . . . at the last we may become *fit instruments for Thy Church and Commonwealth*," as to make it highly probable that Hotchkis was correct in supposing that the Forms of Prayer which he copied from Chaloner's book were in use at Shrewsbury School in Lawrence's time.



And noe marvell thereat, for I served in the place at my firste comynge hyther, six yeares, and receaved for my stypende but twentye markes yearlye, and ever after warde I receaved twentye pounds, and noe penny more, untill the expyracon of the lease of Chyrburye. . . .”

Lawrence goes on to say that some of his friends have tried to persuade him to take a Master of Arts for his helper, but that he has conscientious objections to this course.

“Nevertheless,” he adds, . . . “yf my successer (whosoever he be) will of his owne good nature francklye give me, or els throughe yo<sup>r</sup> w. p’suasions bestowe vpon me, one yeares wages at the lest, I p’suade myselfe (good Mr. Bayliffes) that I may with a clere and safe conscience take it, yf my cause be wayed eyther with reason, law, conscience, or comen honestye. But deale in my behalf (good Mr. Bayliffes) as seamethe beste to your own selves. And soe shall I very shortly haue just cause to make true reporte to some of honoure, and others of greate worshippe, eyther of yo<sup>r</sup> carefull or unkynde dealinge with me. . . . Procede nowe (good Mr. B.) conferre (I beseech you) withe Mr. Baker, whoe is learned and wise, a man of greate honestye and sufficient experyence. A fytt man everye way for yo<sup>r</sup> w. to deale withall. Reade over the statuts, send your letters to St. Jhon’s . . . have a care of the schole, it is a nurserye of learning, an ornament to your towne, and a singular benefyte to the wholl comonwelthe. And thus wisshinge helthe to your worships, good successe to your schole, and felicitye to your Towne, I here take my leave, trusting you will bear with the tediousness of my writinge consideringe the wayghtiness of the cause.

Your worships verey lovinge friend to use,

Thomas Laurence.”

LETTER FROM THE BAILIFFS OF SHREWSBURY TO THE  
MASTER AND FELLOWS OF ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE,

“*August 1st, 1583.*

“Right W. Theis shal be to signifie unto you that Mr. Lawrence the cheife Scholem<sup>r</sup> of the free gram’ schole of Shrewsbury, having contynued that chardge by the space of theis xv. yeres past, and fynding himselfe so weakened in body that he is not able to contynewe the susteyninge of the burden incident to the place any longer, hathe nowe presently geven over that chardge. And

althoughe for our owne partes wee have signified unto him that wee are unwilling that he should do so, and have earnestly entreated him to contynewe that chardge, and for his ease to take unto him suche an assistant for a tyme as himself should like of, yet can wee not perswade him to yeld thereunto. And for as much as his care and diligence hath byn such, that the schoole hath nott onelye yelded a great number of good schollers in his tyme (as your howse can partlie testifie), but also is the specialle ornament of this towne and trespure of the contre adjoyning, and for that the schole is nowe left in suche good order as all gentlemen in theis partes are verie desirous to haue their children hear trayned vp in learning, whereby the number of schollers do dayly encrease, wee are theirfor desyrours at this first avoydaunce of the chief scholem<sup>r</sup> suche consideracon may be taken for the choise of a new as may in every respect aunswer the good meaninge of the foundors and of the settor forward of the woorke (Mr. Ashton by name, somtyme of that your colledge).<sup>1</sup> For this purpose haue wee entreated this speciall berer, Thomas Salter, gent., to trayvale to you at this present, with theis our lettres, signifying unto you by the same that this Rowme nowe being become void, our desyre is that you will elect and send unto us (accordinge to the great trust which by the ordynaunces of the said schole in you is reposed), a suffycient person who for his learninge, gravitie, audacitye, invencon, wysdome and discrecon maye for this first time of avoydaunce (for good example to posteritie) receve the place in respect of worthynes only: and not for any other pryvate suite labour or affecon. And albeit wee thinke you wil be myndful to comend a sufficient person according to the ordynaunces, yet for that by the ordynaunces the second scholm<sup>r</sup> (Mr. Baker by name, being a master of arts aboue 2 yeres standinge, and also furnished with all other qualities bie the ordynaunces required) ought to be preferred before any others, hee beinge called before vs disableth him selfe to receve the same and utterly refuseth to suppllye the rowme, wee haue in respecte thereof also taken occasion to make this speciall suite unto you, that a man qualified as aforesaid may be elected to furnishe the place; for yf friendship shall so prevaile that a younger or more insuffycient man than Mr. Baker shal be comended we cannot allowe of the choyse."

<sup>1</sup> Ashton certainly graduated at Trinity, and was a Fellow of that college.

LETTER FROM THE QUEEN'S COUNCIL TO THE  
BAILIFFS, SCHOOLMASTER, AND BURGESSES OF  
SHREWSBURY.

*"March 18th, 1586.<sup>1</sup>*

"After o<sup>r</sup> verie hartie commend<sup>co</sup>ns, Whereas we are geven to vnderstand that yo<sup>r</sup> late collect<sup>r</sup> of the Rents belonging to yo<sup>r</sup> free School theare is dead, whearebie yo<sup>u</sup> are to nominate som other fitt person to that place. Forasmuch as this Bearer Thomas Browne, one whoe hath longe dwelld amongst yo<sup>u</sup>, and hath whilst God gave him the meanes releved a great multitude of poore persons in setting them on work by the trade he then vsed of cloathing is desirous with yo<sup>r</sup> favo<sup>rs</sup> to receve that place, if you shuld thinke him worthie for the same. We having had good proof of the honestie of the person and being desirous to doe him what reasonable favo<sup>r</sup> we maie, doe verie hartlie praie yo<sup>u</sup> on this our requests and for his owne sake to accept of him to that place, with like fees and commodities as yo<sup>r</sup> last officer enioyed, w<sup>ch</sup> favo<sup>r</sup> we shall thankfullye accept at yo<sup>r</sup> hands, and so verie hartlie bid you farewell.

"Ffrom the Court this XVIII<sup>th</sup> of Marche, 1586.

"Yo<sup>r</sup> verie Loving frendes,

W. Burgley,

Hen: Cobham,

Fra: Walsingham."

LETTER FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH TO THE BAILIFFS,  
BURGESSES, AND HEAD SCHOOLMASTER OF THE  
TOWN OF SHREWSBURY.<sup>2</sup>

*"Greenwich, November 16th, 1588.*

"Trusty and well beloved: we greete you well: Whereas among other parcells of landes passed unto you by our late grante, there is contayned one small parcell of tithe belonging to the parish of St. Mary in that our towne of Shrewesbury, of the yearelye rent of 20 Markes or thereabouts, then and nowe in the tenure of Mary Kelton, gentlewoman, widowe, whereof the years are almost expired,

<sup>1</sup> This letter is among the town records.

<sup>2</sup> The letter had the Queen's signature. Phillips gives it in his *History of Shrewsbury*, which was published in 1779. It was at that time in the school chest in the Exchequer, and a copy of it was obtained for Phillips by the Head Master, the Rev. James Atcherley.



whereuppon she hath made humble suite unto us, that forasmuch as it is not now in our power to renew hir estate in the sayd tithes according as we used to extend like favors to our tenants upon surrenders, the same being passed from us to you, and that it hath bene left to hir by her late husband for a stay and relief both to hir during hir life and afterwards to hir children, to whom their father deceased hath left but small living besides, so as if this were taken from them they were like to fall in distress.—We have in consideration thereof been moved to recommend her suite unto you, that is, that upon surrender of her present estate you will make unto her a new lease of the said tythes for the term of 30 yeares at the rent accustomed, and without fine, as at our request which we think we may the rather require at your hands, for that both the said parcel of tithes and many other things were in our late grant freely and without charge by us given to you. And, therefore, we do look that this so reasonable a request being for the relief of a widow and fatherless children shall not be denied, but rather granted, with such favour and expedition as we may have cause to think our late benefit to you bestowed on thankful persons.”

DECREE OF LORD CHANCELLOR ELLESMERE IN THE  
SUIT JOHN MEIGHEN *VERSUS* THOMAS JONES  
AND HUGH HARRIS.

“*July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1613.*<sup>1</sup>

“Whereas, in the Term of the Holy Trinity, in the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the King’s Majesty that now is, John Meighen, Chief Schoolmaster of the Free Grammar School of Shrewsbury in the county of Salop, exhibited his Bill of Complaint into this most honourable Court of Chancery against

<sup>1</sup> The original document is not to be found among the town records. But Hotchkis made a transcript of it which is here reproduced with some alterations of the spelling. Mr. Blakeway gives an abstract of Hotchkis’s transcript in his MSS. in the Bodleian. The decree recites the substance of Meighen’s bill of complaint and of the report or certificate of the Commissioners. The only document bearing on the subject, which has been found among the town records, is what appears to be a faithful copy of the decree, leaving out those parts of it which recite the contents of Meighen’s bill and of the Commissioners’ report. It is endorsed “Mr. Otley,” and is evidently part of the Corporation case in the litigation with St. John’s College about the right of appointment to the second-mastership which commenced in 1672.



Thomas Jones and Hugh Harris, then<sup>1</sup> Bailiffs of the said town, defendants showing thereby that the late King Edward the Sixth founded the said school, and, for the maintenance thereof, gave divers tithes to the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said town of Shrewsbury, and that the late Queen Elizabeth of famous memory, for the better maintenance thereof, gave unto them among other things the Rectory of Chirbury, and that the Corporation did covenant with the said Queen to employ the revenues thereof according to such constitutions as Thomas Ashton, then Head Schoolmaster of the said school, should make, who accordingly made divers ordinances, 1<sup>st</sup> for the valuation and employing of the revenues of the said school; 2<sup>ndly</sup> that there should be 3 schoolmasters in the said school; the Head Schoolmaster who should have yearly £40, the second £30, the third £20, yearly; 3<sup>rdly</sup> that there should be a Bailiff for the collection of the rents, who should have yearly £4, and enter into a bond of £300 or more for the answering of his charge; 4<sup>thly</sup> that the Bailiff should yearly give an account of all things within his charge before the Bailiffs of the town and Head Schoolmaster; 5<sup>thly</sup> that the surplusage remaining upon the foot of the accounts should be called the Stock Remanent, and be put into a strong chest under 4 locks in the Exchequer of the said town; that the Bailiffs should have the keeping of one key and the most ancient alderman, the second key; the Head Schoolmaster, the third key; and the most ancient of the 24 Councillors of the said town, the 4<sup>th</sup> key; 6<sup>thly</sup> that the Bailiffs of the said town should yearly take their oaths for the true accomplishment of so many of the ordinances as concerned the demising of the revenues of the said school, and the employing thereof according to the ordinances, at which time the Chief Schoolmaster should be present. And the complainant also showed that one George Phillips was lawfully elected School Bailiff, and that there was an iron chest in the Exchequer with 4 locks, and the keys disposed as aforesaid, and that the business of the school had been managed by the Bailiffs and Head Schoolmaster jointly and only; likewise that there was of the Stock Remanent in the school chest £404 17s. 7d., which was to be employed for the buying of land for the making of the schoolhouse and lodgings for the schoolmasters in the country, in the time of common plague or other

<sup>1</sup> It was of course a mistake to speak of the defendants as *then* Bailiffs. They were Bailiffs in 1610-11.

dangerous infections in Shrewsbury ; and that afterwards the Stock Remanent was to be employed for the purchasing of scholarships in the universities, and that, about the first day of October in the 8<sup>th</sup> year of his majesty's reign, that now is, the said defendants were Bailiffs of Shrewsbury, and took the aforesaid oath concerning the said school, and that the defendants required the Complainant to bring his key for the opening of the school chest to take £10 out of the same, which he refused to do, for that they showed him no cause for the employment thereof, and that the Complainant wished the defendants to send to St. John's College in Cambridge for the electing of one to supply the 3<sup>rd</sup> Room, being then void ; whereupon the defendants sent one Rowland Jenks to Cambridge with a letter on the school's charge, which they might have sent without charge ; and that the said Bailiffs, having the consent of the ancientest Alderman and Councillor, unlocked 3 of the locks of the said chest, and broke open the 4<sup>th</sup> lock ; whereupon the said chest lay open to the disposition of the defendants from the 29<sup>th</sup> of January in the 8<sup>th</sup> year until the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November in the 9<sup>th</sup> year of his Majesty's Reign that now is, during which time the said defendants took out of the said chest divers sums of money, converting the same to their own use, and also divers deeds, evidences and accounts, belonging to the said school, some part of which money the said defendants spent in prosecution of a Suit against the said Complainant and the other schoolmasters. For all which matters, and divers others in the said Bill alleged, the said Complainant prayed relief in this Court and process of subpoena to be awarded against the said defendants to appear in this Court and to answer the premises ; which being granted, and the Defendants therewith served, they accordingly appeared and made their Answer to the said Bill of Complaint, as by the same Bill and Answer remaining of Record in this most honourable Court more at large it doth and may appear. After which Answer, so made, upon opening the matter in the presence of counsel learned on both parts, This Court, finding that the matter in question between them upon Bill and Answer did concern the government and ordinances of the said school and some disorders which had been used there contrary to the same ordinances, and therefore to the intent that the ordinances and institutions of the said school, heretofore made, might be well and truly performed and kept hereafter, according to the true intent and meaning of the

same ordinances, it was thought meet by this Court, and, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of February in the 10<sup>th</sup> year of his Majesty's Reign, ordered, that a Commission should be awarded unto Sir Edward Bromley, Knight, one of the Barons of his Majesty's Exchequer, Sir Richard Lewkenor, Knight, Chief Justice of Chester, and Richard Barker, Esq., Recorder of the said town of Shrewsbury, giving them, or any two of them, whereof the said Recorder to be one, authority to call the said parties before named before them, and to examine witnesses in the same Cause, and thereupon to consider and understand of the matters contained in the said Bill and Answer, and of the said ordinances for the good of the said school aforesaid, and to see and take order that nothing should be done in breach of the said ordinances, but that all things might be done according to the intent and true meaning thereof, and so end and determine the said Cause, if they could;—if not, that then they certify unto this Court their proceedings in the said Cause; and, for the better effecting thereof, the Lord Chancellor would be pleased to write his honourable letters to the Commissioners before named for the purpose aforesaid. According to which commission and letters to them directed as aforesaid the said Commissioners made certificate unto the Right Honourable the Lord Chancellor and to this honourable Court on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, Anno Domini 1613, now last past, that on Thursday in Easter Week, being the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, Anno Domini 1613, they repaired to the Town Hall of the said town of Shrewsbury, and, having called the said parties, Plaintiff and Defendants, before them there, they bestowed two several days in the full hearing of the said Cause and of all the said parties and of their learned counsel, and having viewed the Bill and Answer of the parties aforesaid, and examined such witnesses as were produced in the said Cause, and considered of their proofs and allegations, and also of the ordinances of the said school, and of some disorders contrary to the same ordinances, they did endeavour themselves finally to end and determine the said Cause with the liking of the said parties; which because they could not perform accordingly, they thought it fit in duty to signify unto this Court their proceedings concerning the same, as by the said commission, order, and honourable letters, they were required; Videlicet; —that they found the estate of the said school was much decayed by the froward and ill carriage of the said Meighen, being a very contentious person, and of a turbulent and mutinous spirit and



disposition ; and that whereas, by the true meaning of the ordinances of the said school, no persons were to have or receive any stipend or wages for teaching in the said school, but only such as should be elected or placed schoolmasters thereof according to the said ordinances ; and that, so often as any of the two upper rooms or places of schoolmasters of the said school should happen to be void, the room so vacant to be supplied by preferring of the next inferior schoolmaster of the said school thereunto, if he were qualified for the same as by the ordinances in that behalf is prescribed ; or otherwise, by election by the Master and Fellows of the College of S<sup>t</sup> John the Evangelist in the University of Cambridge, to whom the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury for the time being, within 20 days next after notice unto them given by the schoolmaster or schoolmasters then remaining of such vacancy or avoidance, were to send for one to supply the said room or place ; and that the second room or place of the Second Schoolmaster of the said school became void in November, Anno Domini 1607, by the death of John Baker, the then Second Schoolmaster thereof ; and that thereupon the said Meighen and the other schoolmasters then remaining gave notice to the then Bailiffs of the said vacancy ; and that then the said Bailiffs, upon good advice, for just causes then proved before them, and manifested unto the said Meighen, being present, did deny to give their consent for the preferring of Ralph Gittins,<sup>1</sup> then Third Schoolmaster of the said school, to the room or place of the said schoolmaster there, (without whose consent the said Gittins by the ordinances of the said school could not have the Second Place) ; and that afterwards, within 20 days next after notice given by the remaining schoolmasters as aforesaid of the vacancy of the Second Room, the then Bailiffs of the said town sent to the said Master and Fellows of the said College for the supplying thereof<sup>2</sup> according to the said ordinances ; and that, although the late archbishop had in the presence of the said Meighen, censured the said Gittins to be unworthy of the Second Place in respect of his wavering

<sup>1</sup> Meighen has left it on record in the school register that Mr. Andrew Lewis did give his consent, though "doubtfully." It was Mr. William Jones only who "flatly" refused to agree.

<sup>2</sup> There is no record in the College archives of any such application, and Meighen distinctly states that, up to January 22nd, 1607, no course had been taken up by the Bailiffs for supplying of the school. It was on December 9th that Meighen formally proposed the promotion of Ralph Gittins.



and unsteadiness in religion,—Yet, all this notwithstanding, they found that the said Meighen, of his own head without the approbation of the said Bailiffs, and contrary to the ordinances of the said school, shortly after the death of the said John Baker, placed the said Gittins in the said Second Room, and, against the liking of the said Bailiffs, had caused<sup>1</sup> to be paid to the said Gittins the stipend due to the Second Schoolmaster of the said school (the said Gittins not being thereunto lawfully allowed or elected according to the ordinances of the said school); and they found that the opposition of the said Meighen and Gittins for the hindering of any other person to be elected unto the said Second Place was the occasion, as well of a notorious riot committed by many women of the said town forcibly keeping the possession of the schoolhouse there by the space of four days and three nights together, as also of a great misdemeanour afterwards committed by the said Gittins causing the school door to be shut against the Bailiffs of the said town, and thereby drawing together in the street, over against the said schoolhouse, a great number of people of the said town; at which time, one of the then Bailiffs, endeavouring to go into the said school through one of the lodgings belonging to the said school up a pair of stairs leading into the school, had been like to have been killed or spoiled by the casting of a piece of timber down in the said stairs by the said Gittins on his appointment; at which time also the said Gittins put his head out of one of the windows of the said schoolhouse, which was towards the street, crying, “Come in, Burgesses,” and saying that he stood for their rights, thereby to entice a great number of burgesses, then gathered together in the street, to make resistance to the then Bailiffs of the said town which came to suppress that mutinous outrage. They also proved<sup>2</sup> that the said Ralph Gittins, before the death of the said John Baker, carried himself negligently in the Third Place of the said school, and, for these many years past, had been accounted a dangerous suspected papist, and one that did not only harbour in his chamber one Leach at such times as he preached many points of popery

<sup>1</sup> It is difficult to understand how Meighen could *cause* the stipend of the second master to be paid to Gittins “against the liking of the Bailiffs,” when the Bailiffs had one key of the school chest in their possession, and two other keys were in the possession of other members of the Corporation.

<sup>2</sup> It would be interesting to know on what evidence it was *proved* that Gittins had been wanting in the *diligence* to which his chief testified so strongly six years before.

within the said town of Shrewsbury, who since was gone beyond the seas and there wrote books against the State of this Realm, but also received and countenanced other persons ill affected in religion and dangerous to the Estate, for which causes and other abuses and miscarriages the said Gittins was by the late Lord Archbishop suspended from teaching, and afterwards, for divers other misdemeanours by him done, was by the said Archbishop committed to the Gatehouse of Westminster, and, before his enlargement, bound with sureties not to go beyond the seas. Wherefore, and for other reasons appearing unto the said Commissioners, they were of opinion, under favour, that the said Ralph Gittins was not a fit person to teach or supply any room in the said school, but thought fit that he should be removed from thence, and some worthy man to be elected and placed in the Second Place of schoolmaster of the said school in the place and stead of the said Gittins. And, as for the said complainant, Meighen, the said Commissioners found him faulty in very many things, some of them not befitting the place of an honest man. For, at such time as Gittins was suspended from teaching, and no other chosen by the said Master and Fellows of St. John's College in Cambridge, with the assent of the Bailiffs and the approbation of the said late Lord Archbishop, the said Meighen, of his own head,<sup>1</sup> appointed one Andrew Harding to teach in the Second Room, and caused<sup>2</sup> an allowance out of the school revenues of £30 to be made unto the said Harding for teaching in the Second Room, and thereupon £30 to be colourably paid unto the said Harding, and an acquittance from him to be made, testifying the receipt of the said £30 accordingly; whereas £20 thereof was immediately taken from him,<sup>3</sup> and he had only £10 for his service and salary; and the said £20 was paid unto the said Gittins, or otherwise disposed at the pleasure or discretion of the said Meighen; and therefore, and for many other causes, the said Commissioners thought the same Complainant, Meighen, worthy of reprehension, and that if he should not hereafter conform and

<sup>1</sup> It is not easy to see how Meighen can have appointed Andrew Harding "of his own head," if the choice had the "assent of the Bailiffs and the approbation of the Archbishop."

<sup>2</sup> It was impossible for Meighen to *cause* payments to be made out of the school chest without the assent of the Bailiffs.

<sup>3</sup> It is evident that Harding must have been a party to the arrangement, and to represent him as compelled to sign an acquittance for £30 and then as having £20 "taken from him" is absurd.

carry himself more respectively (*sic*) in the affairs of the said school than he had done heretofore, but should minister just cause of further complaints against him for his miscarriage, then they were of opinion that it was fit that he were also removed, and some worthier and more sufficient person chosen to supply his Room of Headmaster there. And whereas, one principal part of the said Complainant's Bill against the said Defendants was for breaking open a chest in the Exchequer of the said town wherein the treasure and evidence of the said school were, and are, usually kept, upon which chest there are 4 several locks, and to each lock a several key belonging, the one remaining in the hands of the Bailiffs of the said town for the time being, the second remaining in the keeping of the senior in office or room of the aldermen of the said town, the 3rd in the keeping of the chief schoolmaster, and the 4th in the keeping of the senior in room or office of the 24 Councillors of the said town for the time being, and for the taking out of money and evidences out of the same chest without the consent of the Complainant and misemploying the same money, the said Commissioners did find that, by the express and literal words of the ordinance in that behalf, the said persons were trusted with the keeping of the same keys of the said chest, so that the same chest ought not to be opened but with the consent and in the presence of the said several persons trusted with the keeping of the said several keys; Yet, forasmuch as the said Defendants, then Bailiffs, were sworn,<sup>1</sup> according to the said ordinances for the employing and bestowing of the revenues of the said school according to the true intent of the said ordinances; and as it was proved before the said Commissioners that the Defendants, being then Bailiffs, had just cause to send unto Cambridge for the election of two schoolmasters to supply the 2nd and 3rd rooms<sup>2</sup> in the said school, and which, for the said rooms, by the said ordinances, was to be done and performed within 20 days then next after,<sup>3</sup> according to the said

<sup>1</sup> It is strange that the fact of the Bailiffs having taken an oath to observe the ordinances should be alleged in justification of their breaking them.

<sup>2</sup> Both the second and third rooms could not be vacant. If Gittins had not a legal claim to the second-mastership, he was still third master, although suspended from teaching.

<sup>3</sup> This mention of the "20 days" is an additional proof of the Commissioners' inaccuracy on matters of fact. Rowland Jenks was sent to Cambridge in October, 1610, but the second room had been vacant, unless Gittins was legally second master, since November, 1607.



ordinances ; and the charges of sending and riding thereabouts were to be borne of the said school money according to the said ordinances ; and that the Complainant denied to come with the key and be present at the opening of the said chest for the taking out of any money of the same, albeit he was divers times sent unto by the said Defendants for that purpose, the said Complainant pretending the room of the Second Schoolmaster to be then full and furnished by the said Gittins, only upon the said Complainant's own allowance, and yet allowing the 3rd place of the said school to be void ; and the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said town having just cause<sup>1</sup> of suit and exception, as well against the said Gittins and one Ralph Jones, then teacher in the Third Room or Place of the said school, who had unlawfully intruded into the several rooms and lodgings appertaining to the Second and Third Schoolmasters of the said school, as also against them, the said Gittins and Jones, and the said Meighen, and one George Phillips, the Bailiff of the said school for the receipt and employment of the rents and revenues of the said school, and one Richard Higgons, for getting into their hands and custody great sums of money, parcel of the revenues appointed for the maintenance of the said school, and misemploying thereof, contrary to the true intent and meaning thereof ; and the same Corporation having in their public assembly agreed to prosecute the said suit,<sup>2</sup> they, the said Defendants, being then Bailiffs of the said town, did, for the causes aforesaid, with the advice, and in the presence, of the seniors in office of Aldermen and Common Council of the town, keepers of two of the aforesaid keys, and of divers others to the number of 15 or more of the principal persons of the said Corporation, being Aldermen and of the said Common Council of the said town, unlock 3 of the locks of the said chest with their 3 keys, and caused the 4th lock (whereof the Complainant had the 4th key) to be broken ; and, out of the same chest, in manner aforesaid, at 3 several times, took out of the said chest the sum of £30 ; viz., £10 at every time ; and did employ the same for the causes aforesaid and for other necessary uses of the said school ; and delivered unto their immediate successors, Bailiffs of the said town, an account in writing, mention-

<sup>1</sup> It is strange to speak of a suit which had proved abortive having *just cause*.

<sup>2</sup> This is beside the question. The Corporation, though constantly claiming the right to interfere, had no legal status in the government of the school.



ing the disbursements of the said money,<sup>1</sup> which being read before the said Commissioners, and justified by one of the said Defendants upon oath, the said Complainant would take no exception to the expending of any part thereof,<sup>2</sup> which expenses the said Commissioners thought reasonable and fit to be allowed; and it was also proved before the same Commissioners that the Defendants and the said seniors in office of Aldermen and Common Council, at every of the said several times, in the presence of the persons aforesaid, locked up the said chest again and took back their several keys; which breaking open of the said chest and taking money out of the same, being done upon the necessary occasion and reasons aforesaid, and not for any private gain or lucre unto the Defendants themselves, or either of them, the said Commissioners thought, under favour, not to be any fault that deserved either censure or punishment; but, for the reasons aforesaid, their doings therein to be excused; and yet they did wish, and so thought, that the same chest should not be at any time hereafter opened, nor any money nor evidences taken out of the same without the full consent and in the presence of all the persons trusted with or interested in the keeping of the keys thereof, and did also hope and wish that such order might be taken that then should never hereafter be any such cause to move any succeeding Bailiffs to do the like; and as to the taking of any evidences by the said Defendants out of the said chest, they found that such as they took forth were taken for the necessary use of the said school, and were presently, after use thereof, safely locked up in the said chest again. And whereas, by one of the said ordinances, the scholars of the said school upon every Sunday and Holy Day were to resort to the Parish Churches of the said town and suburbs, wherein they dwelt or were tabled, to hear Divine Service, and to go to such one of the Churches where there should be any sermon; and that afterwards, A.D. 1582, within 5 years next after the making of the aforesaid ordinances, by the good advice and mutual consents of

<sup>1</sup> So far was this from being true, that not only Thomas Wolley and John Hawkshead, the Bailiffs of 1611-1612, but their successors, Rowland Langley and Rowland Jenks, entered memoranda in the school account-book that Jones and Harris had not accounted for the £30 they had taken from the school chest.

<sup>2</sup> One of Meighen's express charges against Jones and Harris in his bill was that they had used some part of the £30 in prosecuting a suit against him and the other schoolmasters.

the then Bailiffs of the said town, and of the Master and Seniors of St. John's College in Cambridge, and of Thomas Lawrence, the Chief Schoolmaster of the said school, one Chapel, part of the Parish Church of St. Mary in the said town of Shrewsbury (within which parish the said school and schoolmaster's lodgings be), the said Church being the King's Free Chapel and the Lord Chancellor Visitor thereof, was repaired and beautified upon the school charges, to the intent that, upon all the Sabbath Days, Holy Days and half holidays, the schoolmasters and scholars of the said school should resort thither to hear Divine Service and to sit upon seats in the Chancel of the said Church to hear public sermons; unto which Chapel and Chancel both the schoolmasters and scholars of the said school, from the repairing thereof as aforesaid until about 7 or 8 years last past, did so come accordingly, to the great good of the said scholars and comfort and contentment of the inhabitants of the said town and of all other persons which resorted thither, and that, according to an interpretation and exposition of some of the ordinances of the said school made by the Lord Chancellor and others in the 34th year of the late Queen, out of the Stock Remanent of the said school there might, by the true intent and meaning of the ordinances, be defrayed and bestowed money and charges upon the reparation of a Chapel for the schoolmasters and scholars of the said school and maintenance for one to read Divine Service and catechise there, the said Commissioners do think it fit that the schoolmasters and scholars of the said school, as heretofore in the time of the said Lawrence, being Head Schoolmaster of the said school, and for many years after in the time of the said Meighen they did so; hereafter they should, upon every Sunday, Holy Day and half holiday, resort unto the said Chapel to hear Divine Service and the said scholars to be instructed in the principles and grounds of true religion; and that, at such times as there shall be any sermon in the said Church upon any Sunday or Holy Day, that both the said schoolmasters and scholars go likewise unto the same; and for want of a sermon in that Church, then unto such Church in the said town where there shall be a sermon, as heretofore they have used and accustomed; and that the said Chapel and seats there be from time to time repaired at the charges of the school revenues for the uses aforesaid; and that such reasonable allowance or maintenance out of the school revenues be given to the Curate

of the said Parish Church of St. Mary for the time being, or to some sufficient person to be chosen from time to time by the said Bailiffs of the said town and the Chief Schoolmaster for the time being, for the reading of Divine Service and catechising of the scholars there, as they, the said Bailiffs and Head Schoolmaster, shall think meet; and that the Curate of the said Church be either a Bachelor or Doctor of Divinity, if any such may be conveniently had to supply that function.—And whereas, by one of the said ordinances, there is to be made or provided in some convenient place within the County of Salop an house for the schoolmasters and scholars to resort unto and abide in in the time of common plague or other infection dangerous in the said town of Shrewsbury, the said Commissioners were of opinion that £200 is sufficient to be employed for that purpose, considering the seldom use that is like to be thereof, and that the same be bestowed by the direction of the Bailiffs of the said town with the consent of the Head Schoolmaster within two years now next ensuing; and that the Stock Remanent afterwards be bestowed and employed for the founding erecting and maintaining of scholarships and fellowships in the university according to the ordinance in that behalf. They found the Stock Remanent of the said school at the time of the making of their said certificate to be £321 11s. 2½d. or thereabouts; and that the buildings and lodgings already made about the said school were very sufficient, and some of them very superfluous and unnecessary; and therefore they were of opinion that no more money should be taken or employed out of the Stock Remanent for the further building or furnishing thereof, saving only for the necessary repairing thereof. And whereas, by one of the said ordinances, the Bailiff appointed for the collection of the rents and revenues of the said school is to enter into bond or recognizance of £300 or more with sufficient sureties for his account and discharge of his place and the true answering of all matters in his charge, the school revenues at the making of the said ordinances being much smaller than now it is, the said Commissioners did think it fit that the bond of the said School Bailiff (the penalty thereof being less than his yearly receipt) be renewed and increased, and that the penalty of the bond or recognizance, into which the School Bailiff for the time being with his Sureties shall enter, shall be double the sum or more of his yearly receipt; and that part of the condition thereof be that he do not at any time



pay or disburse any of the rents or revenues of any of the hereditaments given for the maintenance of the said school, or otherwise whatsoever concerning the said school, without the consent of the Bailiffs of the said town for the time being and the Schoolmaster. And whereas, the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said town stand bound unto the King's Majesty by force of a covenant made with the late Queen, her heirs, and successors, to employ and bestow the rest and residue of the revenues and profits belonging to the said school, not specially, by the Letters Patent of the said late Queen, limited to be otherwise paid and bestowed, according to such orders and constitutions as should be taken in that behalf by Thomas Ashton, alias Aston, then schoolmaster there, and that thereupon, in the 20th year of the Reign of the said late Queen; the said Thomas Ashton, alias Aston, then made ordinances for and concerning the employing and disposing of the revenues of the said school, and the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Shrewsbury, with the advice and consent of the then Rev. Father in God, the then Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and of the said Mr. Ashton, alias Aston, at the same time made other ordinances concerning the election, placing, direction, rule, ordering and government of the schoolmasters and scholars of the said school, the said ordinances being all the ordinances of or concerning the said school and contained in the three several schedules tripartite, bearing date the 11th day of February in the 20th year of the Reign of the said late Queen Elizabeth, made between the then Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield on the first part, and the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Shrewsbury on the second part, and the Master, Fellows and Scholars of St. John's College in Cambridge, and the said Thomas Ashton, alias Aston, then late Head Schoolmaster of the said school, and Thomas Lawrence, then Head Schoolmaster of the said school, on the third part, by which tripartite indenture all the parties thereunto, saving the said Aston and Lawrence who covenanted only for themselves, and their several successors respectively, did covenant, each with the other, truly to perform and observe all the said ordinances which they and every of them were respectively to observe and perform; and that, by one of the ordinances of the said school, the Bailiffs of the said town were yearly, at the time of the taking of their oaths for and touching the execution of their office of Bailiwick, to take their corporal oaths for the true accomplishment and execution of such and so many of the said ordinances as concerned the demising,



granting, setting and letting of the possessions limited and appointed for the maintenance and advancement of the said school, and the employing and bestowing of the rents, issues and profits thereof, according to the true intent and meaning of the said ordinances, at which time the Head Schoolmaster is to be present, except by sickness, or other urgent causes to them known, he be let thereunto, which use for taking the oath the said Commissioners held very fit to be continued by the Bailiffs of the said town for the time being,<sup>1</sup> and that also the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said town stand bound unto the Master, Fellows and Scholars of St. John's College in Cambridge in the sum of £1000 for the true observing and performing of all and singular the covenants, grants and agreements comprised in the said tripartite indenture concerning the demising, letting, or disposing of the possessions, limited and appointed for the said school, according to the true meaning of the said indenture tripartite; by reason of which several ties the Bailiffs and Burgesses are<sup>2</sup> sufficiently restrained from attempting anything against the ordinances of the said school, or any covenant in the said tripartite indenture mentioned on their parts to be performed.

“*But*, forasmuch as the said complainant doth not stand bound, neither by covenant, as his immediate predecessor did, for performance of any of the said ordinances, nor by oath concerning the employing of any of the revenues of the said school other than only for such money as he yearly receiveth for admission of the scholars into the said school, the said Commissioners did conceive that that hath been a principal occasion to encourage the complainant many times to oppose himself against the Bailiffs of the said town for the time being, and a great cause of breeding debates and contentions against them; and the rather, for that the Bailiffs of the said town, without the assent of the Chief Schoolmaster, by the scope of the said school ordinances cannot well dispose of any of the revenues thereof,<sup>3</sup> or *fail to* observe their oaths in that behalf, the said

<sup>1</sup> It is a striking instance of the bias of the Commissioners that they entirely omit to mention either that the Bailiffs of 1609-1610 refused to take their statutable oath during the whole of their year of office, or that for many years previously, without any legal authority, the Bailiffs had, at each November audit, required the Head Master to swear to his accounts.

<sup>2</sup> One tie had been disregarded and the other was non-existent.

<sup>3</sup> The Bailiffs, the Commissioners seem to forget, had recently disposed of a considerable sum of money without the assent of the Head Master by simply breaking open his lock. They did the same thing in after years by the connivance of the School Bailiff.

Commissioners therefore thought it fit, if it might stand with the pleasure of this Court, that the complainant and every other Head Schoolmaster of the said school hereafter, before he should take upon the place of Head Schoolmaster, shall enter into bond or covenant with the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said town of Shrewsbury, well and truly to observe and perform all and every matter and thing mentioned or comprised in the said ordinances annexed to the same tripartite indenture, which, in and by the said ordinances, or any of them, are limited or appointed to be performed by the Head Schoolmaster of the said Free Grammar School for the time being, alone, or together with the Bailiffs of the said town for the time being, or with any other, according to the purpose, true intent and meaning of the said ordinances, and shall likewise, before the Bailiffs of the said town, take the same oath which, by the aforesaid ordinances, the Bailiffs of the said town are appointed to take at such time as they enter into their office of their Bailiwick. And whereas, by one of the aforesaid ordinances, made by the said Mr. Ashton, alias Aston, all ambiguities and doubts concerning the understanding and meaning of the said ordinances, so made by the said Mr. Aston, are, without delay, to be interpreted and expounded by the Recorder of the said town for the time being together with two learned men in the Laws of this Realm, such as the Bailiffs of the said town for the time being *and the Head Schoolmaster for the time being shall think convenient and nominate—seeing that between*<sup>1</sup> the Bailiffs of the town for the time being and the said complainant there had often risen many controversies, as well concerning the interpretation and meaning of the ordinances made by Mr. Ashton, alias Aston, as also touching the ordinances made by the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the town of Shrewsbury, with the advice and consent of the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and of Mr. Ashton, alias Aston, aforesaid, the said Commissioners did think it fit, if so it may stand with the good allowing and pleasure of the Court, that, for avoiding of all quarrelling concerning the interpretation and exposition of any of the ordinances concerning the said school and the nomination of two learned men to join with the Recorder for the interpretation thereof, that the Justices of Assize for the said County of Salop

<sup>1</sup> Hotchkis appears to have accidentally omitted the words in italics. All but the last three are taken from the ordinance to which the Commissioners refer. A few other words, also in italics, have been inserted in order to make certain sentences in the decree, as given by Hotchkis, intelligible.

for the time being (and the Recorder of said town for the time being) should be only interpreters and expounders of all and singular the aforesaid ordinances ; and that such interpretations, expositions and directions as they from time to time should set down in writing, under their hands and seals, of or concerning any of the ordinances touching the said school or the reforming of any ordinance concerning the said school, upon the petition of the Bailiffs of the said town and Head Schoolmaster of the said school for the time being, or any two of them, should stand and be observed. And lastly, forasmuch as the said defendants had been at great charges, as well in this suit prosecuted against them without any just cause, for anything appearing unto the said Commissioners to the contrary, as also in the discovering and manifesting of many disorders and abuses contrary to the said ordinances—as well in the misemploying of the said revenues of the said school and in the teachers of the said school, as also in the rule and government thereof and otherwise, the Commissioners thought it fit (under the favour of this Court) that their reasonable expenses should be allowed them out of the revenues of the said school in respect of their good service in that behalf, as by the said certificate of the said Commissioners more at large it doth and may appear.—Now, forasmuch as the matter coming, by the appointment of the Right Honourable the Lord Chancellor, to be heard before his lordship, and upon the opening thereof by the counsel learned on both sides, and reading of the certificate aforesaid, it is, this present day, being Monday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, in the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, James, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. ; that is to say, of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland, in the 46<sup>th</sup>, by the Right Honourable Thomas, Lord Ellesmere, Lord Chancellor of England, and the High Court of Chancery, ordered, adjudged and decreed that the said certificate and all the matters therein contained (except the cause and matter between Nicholas Gibson and Thomas Hill, therein specified, which his lordship hath reserved for further hearing in open Court) be performed by the said parties to all intents and purposes according to the tenor and true meaning thereof, with such further reservations and exceptions as are hereafter expressed in these points following wherein his lordship is pleased of his honourable providence for the good of the said school more at large to explain himself. First, for that it is



apparent by the said Certificate that the said Meighen, of his own head, and without the approbation of the Bailiffs of the said town of Shrewsbury, and contrary to the ordinances of the said school, hath placed one Ralph Gittins in the Second Room of the said school,<sup>1</sup> who is, and hath been a man wavering and unsteadfast in religion, and for these many years past hath been accounted a dangerous and suspected papist, and one that did not only harbour in his house one Leach at such times as he preached many points of popery, but also countenanced other persons ill affected in religion, for which and such other like misdemeanours the said Gittins was convened before the late Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and by him suspended from teaching and committed to the Gatehouse in Westminster, and enjoined there before his enlargement to give bond with sureties not to depart beyond the seas. For all which reasons it is ordered and decreed by his lordship that the said Gittins shall, between this and Michaelmas next, avoid from the said Place, and from thenceforth no further stipend shall be allowed unto him out of the same school revenues, and another sufficient person shall be placed in his stead, and, to that end, the Master and Fellows of St. John's College in Cambridge, who are forthwith to be made acquainted herewith, are in the meantime to proceed to a new election for that purpose according to the letter and true meaning of the ordinances of the said school. And, whereas it was informed that there being a fair library erected adjoining to the said school and standing unfurnished with books, whereby no good use is made thereof, as it was truly meant at such time as the same was erected, and the same with some cost might be made very commodious and beneficial to the schoolmasters and scholars of the same school, it is, therefore, thought fit and so ordered by his lordship that a Commission be awarded to the former Commissioners, authorizing them, or any two of them, thereby (whereof the said Mr. Barker, being Recorder of the said town, to be one) to take consideration thereof, and, out of the Stock Remanent of the

<sup>1</sup> It is quite evident that the Lord Chancellor was quite unaware that Gittins had been formally promoted to the second-mastership on October 1st, 1612, by the Bailiffs and Head Master, with the full consent and approval of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. The chief reason he gives for the removal of Gittins is that he had been placed in the second room by Meighen "of his own head, without the approbation of the Bailiffs."—Bishop Neile's inquiry, the Order in Council, and Gittins's formal promotion are all carefully suppressed in the certificate.



revenues of the said school, to furnish the said library with books and other necessities, as they, by the consent of the Bailiffs of the said town of Shrewsbury for the time being shall think fit and convenient. And, whatsoever so shall be thought fit by the said Commissioners to be done for the repairing and furnishing of the said library, the same is decreed by this Court accordingly. And lastly, for that it was informed, and his lordship also conceiveth, that the Plaintiff had no just cause of complaint in this Court against the Defendants, but that which the Defendants did was lawful and justifiable, being to defend the rights and possessions of the said school, having more just cause to complain than the Plaintiff, it is ordered by his lordship that the said Defendants shall make their Bill of Costs and deliver the same to his lordship, who will be pleased to consider thereof and tax the same as shall be fit.<sup>1</sup> But, withal, his lordship declared that if the said Plaintiff shall hereafter conform himself to a better temper in observance of the aforesaid ordinances, and due performance of this decree, then such moderation shall be had of the said costs as upon his conformity shall be thought fit.

*19<sup>o</sup> Die Julii. An<sup>o</sup>. Jac. : 11<sup>o</sup>.*"

## SECOND DECREE OF LORD CHANCELLOR ELLESMERE.

*Dated Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1616.*

JOHN MEIGHEN, *Plaintiff*, and THOMAS JONES and HUGH HARRIS, *Defendants*.

"Whereas there hath heretofore been a suit prosecuted in this Court wherein there is a decree passed on the behalf of the school of Shrewsbury, in which suit the said Defendants, for the good of the said school, have taken great pains and travail, and been at very great charges. Therefore it pleased the Right Honourable the Lord Chancellor to write his honourable direction to Mr. Baron Bromley, willing him to consider of the Defendants' Bill of Costs, and due charge for them accordingly; who, thereupon, hath made his certificate to this Court whereby it appeareth that the said Defendants have expended in this suit £127 17s. 4d., besides their travail and pains and loss of time, being tradesmen. Upon consideration of which the said Mr. Baron Bromley was of opinion, and

<sup>1</sup> The Commissioners had recommended that the "reasonable expenses" of the Defendants "should be allowed them out of the revenues of the said school."

thought fit that £100 should be paid to the Defendants out of the Remanent Stock of the said school, which he, the said Mr. Baron, was the rather inclined to appoint, because it appeareth he found it set down in the 8th ordinance of the said school that all expenses and charges whatsoever, spent for or on behalf of the said school, should be allowed out of the said Stock. Now, upon consideration, . . . prosecuted and had by the Right Honourable the Lord Chancellor, of the Defendants' petition, since the said Mr. Baron Bromley's Certificate, his lordship, much commending the care of the Defendants in so good a work, and being also willing to favour the said school, so much as may be, doth fix the said charges only at £80.<sup>1</sup> It is therefore ordered that a subpoena be awarded to the Bailiffs of the said town of Shrewsbury and the Head Schoolmaster of the said school and all other who keep the keys of the chest where the Stock Remanent of the said school doth remain, to deliver and pay out of the said Defendants the sum of Fourscore Pounds towards their full charges."

#### SHREWSBURY SCHOOL AT GRINSHILL IN 1631-32.

The following interesting document has been found by Mr. William Phillips among the town records. It is a testimonial sent to the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury by the four schoolmasters, during the time when the school had migrated to Grinshill in consequence of the prevalence of the plague in Shrewsbury in 1631-32, in behalf of an aged widow named Margery Hamlett who had been summoned before the Bailiffs for "ale-selling" within the Liberties of Shrewsbury. It appears from the letter of the masters that they were dependent upon Margery Hamlett's provision for their daily supplies of food.

"To the Right Worshipful Richard Hunt and Thomas Knight,  
Gentlemen, Bailiffs of the town of Shrewsbury.

"Humbly sheweth to the same that whereas Margery Hamlett, widow, hath been warned to appear before your worships for ale-selling, she being a poor creature of 90 years of age, or thereabouts (as she saith, and also may seem to be) is not able to travel and in

<sup>1</sup> The reduction of the allowance of £100 costs to the defendants, recommended by Mr. Baron Bromley, to £80, seems to indicate that the Lord Chancellor had by 1616 learned that the case of Messrs. Jones and Harris was not so strong as the report of the Commissioners had led him to suppose.

person to perform her duty as she desireth: she is also at this time, by occasion of the schools being here, a most necessary victualler for the use of . . . us, the members thereof, so as we cannot be without the opportunity of her service, as the case standeth for us, she being thereby occasioned, for supplying our necessities, to strain herself to do more in her trade of life than otherwise she would do or heretofore hath done, neither yet doth she keep any house of evil rule by entertaining of company resorting unto it or otherwise by any disorder used in it.

"And therefore also our special desire is, both on her behalf, being a poor aged woman without other means to maintain her, and likewise on our own (she being so necessary a help to us, as hath been said) that at the least during the time of the schools' continuance here, you will be pleased to tolerate with her: and, if you think good, as at our requests to vouchsafe her such further favour as she hath been wont to obtain at the request of others formerly to other bailiffs, your worships' predecessors, and we shall rest

At your worships' command,

Jo: Meighen.

Ra: Gittins.

Da: Evans.

Hughe Spurstowe."

LETTER FROM DR. WILLIAM BEALE, MASTER OF  
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, TO THE BAILIFFS OF SHREWSBURY.

"From St. John's College,

"17 Feb., 1639.

"Gentlemen,

"Accordinge to this y<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> intimation by letters dated 18 Jan. 1636, with request to choose and send you a fitt man and able to teach in the room of M<sup>r</sup> Meighen. In our election we have endeavoured to discharge the chardge and truste lyeinge upon us by virtue of the Royal Ordinances ratified under the seales of both our bodyes. Wee neyther had before nor have wee yet any endes of our owne in eyther the former or this followinge Election but God's glorye, the good of y<sup>r</sup>selves, y<sup>r</sup> countye, this Church and Realme, which wee doubt not but this our electe and presented M<sup>r</sup> Challoner in tyme will make good. To whose further qualification as shall appear in his instrumente we referre you hopinge that neyther amonge you nor us any will be found desirous to stirr up smoake, duste and collusions betwixte us. It is justice



that makes and keepes peace. They that wronge it breake this. God graunte us all grace to followe the one and enioye the other. And thus we commend this bearer to your frendeley and courteous acceptance, and you to the God of grace, righteousness, and love. And ever we reste all, among the reste myselfe,

“Y<sup>or</sup> faythfull frende to do you any iuste respectes,  
Wm. Beale.”

“To the Wor<sup>ll</sup> my honored frendes the Bayliffs of Shrewsbury presente these with care and speede from Cambridge.”

This letter is given in the school account-book.

LETTER FROM ROBERT WRIGHT, D.D., BISHOP OF  
LICHFIELD AND COVENTRY, TO THE  
BAILIFFS OF SHREWSBURY.

“Eccleshall Castle, 5<sup>o</sup>.<sup>1</sup>

“*Anno Dñi*, 1637.

“Salutem in Christo Jesu.

“Worthye Mr. Bayliffes,

“As I ever helde it fitt for the goode of y<sup>r</sup> Schoole to remove Mr. Gittyns, soe I both am and have (been), as consciens requires, desirous that hee mighte subsiste in his old age, and have somewhat to maynetayne him when he hathe foregone the place. These are therefore to lett you understande that none shall bee more readye to further y<sup>r</sup> designes herein then I am, and I am heartely sorrye that you have so long demur’d upon this business. And doe nowe earnestlye intreate you to use expedition and to give him three score powndes at the leaste as you did a hundred to the other,<sup>2</sup> besides the £15 per Ann., w<sup>h</sup> y<sup>r</sup> Statutes afforded him duringe his life w<sup>h</sup> I presume he will take thankfullye upon the receipte of my letters w<sup>h</sup> I nowe sende unto you by the bearer hereof. The poore man (worthye gentleman), as I have heard, was long deprived of his place, whereby hee loste much, and now, as I conceave, deserves some consideration at his departure, which makes me the bowlder to presse you thereunto. Thus with my prayers unto allmightie god for y<sup>r</sup> healthe and happiness,

“I rest,

“Y<sup>r</sup> respective and lovinge frende,

“Rob : Co : lich :.”

<sup>1</sup> No month is named, but the date of the letter was probably January 5th, 1637. The letter is given in the school account-book.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. John Meighen received £100 on his resignation.



LETTER FROM MR. CORBET KYNASTON, M.P. FOR  
SHREWSBURY, TO MR. JOHN LLOYD, OF  
SHREWSBURY, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

*"London, June 25th, 1723.*

"Sir,—I was favoured with yours of the 19th, and never till then heard upon what terms it was Mr. Lloyd agreed to resign the Schooles to Mr. Clarke, or how they came to break off, for I understood it was upon the College not coming to a resolution to defend their right; and should he have resigned his fellowship and accepted of the schools upon terms with your father, upon a contested nomination, to be contested at his own expense, I should have thought him much to blame.

"But as the College is now come to a resolution to defend their right, I hope you will pardon me if I shall think Mr. Lloyd can't in honour treat with the Corporation (who unjustly endeavoured to oblige him to resign) on any terms but what are by the privity and consent of St. John's College.

"And much less if they are only terms offered by Brickdale, who on a promise Owen has made him to marry his daughter if he will make him head Schoolmaster, is now making interest with the Corporation, if he gains his point with Mr. Lloyd, to admit Owen in his place, in defiance of the College's right of nomination, thinking the violence of the times a favourable opportunity to contest the matter with the College should they dispute the power of the Corporation.

"This was the talk when I was in the country, and, if I am not misinformed, some friends of Mr. Lloyd made him very generous offers if he would tamely resign to his enemies: but whether that is a fact or not the most favourable construction his friends can put upon his resigning on terms from Brickdale or the Corporation, without the consent of the College, will be that he is justified to sell his place for a small consideration to his enemies, to give them a favourable opportunity of taking the advantage of his resignation against the College that nominated him.

"For it is certain, if the Corporation thought they could possibly remove him and place whom they please in his stead, without his resigning to them, they would never offer him terms; that made me give those hints in my letter to Mr. Peugh, and your letter still further confirms me in the same opinion that I was then, for I find

by the ordinances there is no form of a resignation prescribed. That being the case it is reasonable to think, as the College, by the ordinances, has the nomination, that it was understood that the schoolmasters would have so much regard for the College and the good of the Schools, as not to make a vacancy by surrendering, till they have given the College notice to nominate in their roome, which, I believe was the manner of Mr. Taylor's resigning, and in my poor opinion, the only justifiable manner of resigning.

"When I wrote to Mr. Peugh I thought the head schoolmaster was to be admitted by the College, therefore an actual vacancy before they could do anything ; but since they only nominate, the only proper method is for them to do it upon their receiving notice from the schoolmaster that he desires to resign to any person they shall nominate to be appointed, and admitted by the Corporation, pursuant to the ordinances, which notice is proper to be expressed in the body of the nomination from the College, as the cause of their nomination.

"And should the Corporation upon offering them to resign to a person so nominated, being duly qualified, refuse to accept of his resignation, and to admit the person so nominated without showing any general cause, the College or person so refused may undoubtedly bring a mandamus against the Corporation : and I do verily believe it will be impossible to remove Mr. Lloyd till the Corporation are forced to admit the persons nominated by the College.

"And though I never spoke to Mr. Clarke on the terms he agreed with your father I doubt not but he will readily comply with them ; yet in case he has quiet possession, which is all that I think can be expected from him, and will I verily believe be as much to Mr. Lloyd's advantage as of any terms he can make with Brickdale ; and certainly it will be much more to his satisfaction than securing a small sum at the expense of his character and reputation in the world.

"I beg pardon for thus freely telling you my thoughts, but do assure you it proceeds from the very great regard and respect I have both for your father and yourself, and I shall be extremely glad to hear of this matter being settled to both your satisfaction and advantage ; being most sincerely

"Your faithful humble Servant,

"C. Kynaston."

LETTER FROM MR. CORBET KYNASTON,<sup>1</sup> M.P. FOR  
SHREWSBURY, TO THE REV. WILLIAM CLARKE, M.A.,  
FELLOW OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

*"London, June 29th, 1723.*

"Sir,—Mr. Peugh gave me a great deal of satisfaction in telling me I might expect an instrument from St. John's College in favour of you, which is not yet come to my hands, but in answer to my letter to him I received one from Mr. John Lloyd, wherein he tells me his father, having treated with the Corporation, thinks it neither consistant with his word to them or the ordinances to give [notice] to the College as I hinted, which I suppose Mr. Peugh showed it to you. But I believe he will alter his opinion when he considers a resignation to the Corporation, though he has been too cautious to stipulate with them that he will acquaint the College of the time of his doing of it, will not prevent its being of ill consequence to the College, because his resigning to the Corporation is making an actual vacancy, which is giving them an opportunity of placing one in the Schools without the nomination of the College, which the method I propose will prevent.

"And it is very plain the Corporation, or Mr. Brickdale, who has treated with Mr. Lloyd in their name (without being authorized), either think they cannot turn him out without his resigning, or else that his resigning in the manner they desire will be detrimental to the College's right of nomination.

"For it is certain they who have unjustly persecuted him will offer him no terms but what they think prejudicial to his interests, and destructive to the right of the College, which, I dare say, Mr. Lloyd thinks himself bound in justice and gratitude to maintaine; therefore I wish he would take better advice than I am capable of giving before he parts with possession, for then it is too late to repent.

"And the only reason Mr. Lloyd gives me for his father's treating with his enemies was your not being willing to performe the terms upon which he had agreed to resign to you, which I tooke upon me to tell Mr. Lloyd I did not doubt but you would get perforce, provided you were in quiet possession, but thought you right in not

<sup>1</sup> Corbet Kynaston, Esq., was first elected M.P. for Shrewsbury in 1713. His last election was on October 9th, 1722. He was subsequently voted out by the disfranchisement of the Abbey Foregate voters. (OWEN and BLAKEWAY.)



complying to part with a certainty, to parting [with] a disputed title to be defended at your own expense ; which is not now the case if the College is determined to defend their title at their own expense. I therefore wish for the public good that Mr. Lloyd and you may yet agree upon terms to prevent your enemies destroying the Schools, which they will effectually do if by any means they can make a vacancy to give one of their own nomination possession. And while he is in possession they can't destroy the Schools, neither do I think there is the least doubt of the College maintaining their right of nomination, or of his continuing in possession till that is determined, notwithstanding the decree if he makes a tender to resign to one nominated by the College pursuant to the ordinances, and if the College is resolved to maintain their right in my poor opinion they ought to be at the expense of Mr. Lloyd keeping possession till their right is determined, if it is not to be allowed him out of the School revenues.

"I am very sensible I have spoken my opinion too freely in this affair, which I hope both you and Mr. Lloyd will excuse since I do assure you it [is] proffered from a very great respect I have for you both, and my desire for the good of the Schools if Mr. Lloyd does not continue in his place that he may have it in his power to make you his successor.

"I am your most faithful humble Servant,

"C. Kynaston."

#### OFFENDED DIGNITY OF THE MAYOR OF SHREWSBURY IN 1723.

At an Assembly of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Assistants in the Guildhall 18 Nov., 1783.

The Mayor having represented to this Court that he had, pursuant to the direction of the Ordinances of the Free Grammar School of King Edward VI. in the said town, given notice to the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, that the place of third Schoolmaster of the said School was vacant by the removal of the Rev. Mr. Johnson to the place of 2nd Master, vacated by the death of the Rev. Mr. Humphries, and that he had not received any Letter from the said College to signify their Election for his Nomination and Appointment pursuant to the said Ordinances, though it was reported that the said Master and Fellows



had elected a person to that office ; Ordered, that the Town Clerk write to the Master and Fellows of the said College to enquire whether they had made such Election or not ; and if such Election was made, to signify to the College that they have been wanting in proper respects to the Mayor in not apprizing and giving him notice of such Election.

LETTER FROM THE MASTER AND SENIORS OF  
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

*" Cambridge, 24 Nov., 1783.*

" Sir,—The Master of St. John's College has received the Paper signed by you, complaining of a Want of Respect to the Mayor and Corporation of Salop, in not giving them notice of the Election of a Third Master of Shrewsbury School ; and I am directed by the Society to inform you, that they are much surprised both at the Ignorance on which the Censure is founded, and at the Insolence of the manner in which it is conveyed.

" All proper regard was immediately paid to the Mayor's Letter of Notification, which was laid before the Society very soon after it came to hand. Understanding from Mr. Atcherley's Letter that Mr. Matthews would be agreeable to the Mayor and Corporation, as well as to himself, and having good reason for believing that he was in all respects a proper person, they determined to elect him.

" The Certificate to the Bishop of Lichfield, and the Instrument of Appointment were accordingly drawn up, and sealed pursuant to the forms prescribed, and sent to Mr. Matthews, imagining that the Mayor would like as well to receive them from him, as by the post. He will find that the Instrument itself is the proper answer of the Society to his Letter of Notification, and that they have done everything that was incumbent on them to do ; and have not been wanting in any respect due from them to him, or the Corporation of Salop.

" I am, Sir,

" Your most obedient Servant,

" Thos. Lambe."

NOTE BY THE REV. B. H. KENNEDY, D.D., ON THE  
MEANING OF *LIBERA SCHOLA*.

"I say that the person or persons who wrote Edward's charters could not possibly intend to use the word *libera* in the sense of 'gratuitous' (1) for the simple and cogent reason, that the adjective *liber* never had, at any time, borne, or been used in, such a sense. All that is said in the charter is, that the school shall have for its title '*Libera Schola Grammaticalis Regis Edwardi Sexti.*' There is no explanation of any word. Therefore the words must have been well known and commonly used. '*Grammaticalis*' was a word well known: it could only imply a School for the teaching of '*Grammatica*,' the science of language, one of the '*trivial*' sciences. The meaning of the word *libera* must have been at the time equally known and used. What that meaning was will be the second head of my inquiry. At present I affirm that it was *not* 'gratuitous.' This meaning has, I repeat, never belonged to the word *liber*: (a) not in classical Latin; (b) not in post-classical Latin; (c) not in mediæval Latin. For (a) as respects classical Latin, any competent person may satisfy himself by reference to the best dictionaries, as those of Facciolati and Scheller. By reading through the examples of *liber* and its adverb *libere*, and especially by comparing with them the examples of 'gratuitus' and its adverb 'gratis' he will find that the two former words are never used in the sense of the two latter. *Liber* means 'unrestrained,' 'uncontrolled,' or 'exempt,' and of course we may add a word signifying 'expense' or 'payment,' and say that a person or thing is 'exempt' from this; but never will the word *liber* be found to describe 'a thing not to be paid for.' Again, (b) post-classically, we have ample proof in the Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible (about A.D. 400) that *liber* does not mean gratuitous. Let us look at the passages which stand in the English Bible as follows: Matthew x. 8, 'Freely ye have received; freely give.' Romans iii. 24, 'Justified freely.' Rev. xxi. 6, 'I will give of the water of life freely'; xxii. 17, 'Let him take freely.' Does the Vulgate give *libere* in any one of these passages? In none. What it gives is 'gratis.' And in a concordance of the Vulgate I find forty-six references to the word *libere*, in all of which it means 'unenslaved,' and in none 'gratuitous.' Again, (c) mediævally, we have for reference the valuable glossary of Ducange and

Charpentier, of which I have used both the folio edition and also Adelung's in octavo. I have likewise consulted Lindenbrog's *Codex Legum*, and various other works on the Middle Ages; but although the word *liber* is one of the most frequent occurrence, I do not find the faintest trace of its ever having been used in the sense of 'gratuitous,' or in any sense approximating to this. On the other hand, in the Latin translation of Bingham's *Origines Eccles.*, iii. p. 273, I find mention of a canon made at the Council of Constantinople, 'qui scholas gratuitas in omnibus ecclesiis per villas et vicos institui jubet.' Here observe that the writer does not say *Scholas liberas*, but '*Scholas gratuitas*.' What has been already said is alone sufficient to prove my point; but I further remark (2) that the word *Libera* in the title of Edward's schools must have been designed to distinguish them from other existing schools. But 'gratuitousness' would have been no distinction; for of private school-keeping, as a gainful profession, no trace, I believe, is to be found in those days, while in the conventual, chapter, and collegiate schools instruction had always been gratuitous to the poor, and if others gave it was probably left to their own discretion what to give. To call the new schools gratuitous was therefore needless. To the poor student of grammar they were supposed, without any further intimation, to be gratuitous, and the King and his Council could not design to exempt the wealthy from the charges of education. To clinch the matter (3) it is certain that the word *libera* was not understood in those days to mean 'gratuitous,' for when ordinances were made under Elizabeth's sanction for the regulation of Shrewsbury School a scale of fees was appointed to be paid by all persons entering the school, from a 'lord's son' downwards, fees which to us, indeed, appear small in amount, but which would still be in contravention of the Charter if we suppose *libera* to mean 'gratuitous.' Strype tells us that these schools were erected 'for the education of youth in virtue and godliness, for further augmenting the Universities, and better provision for the poor'; and the ordinance above named carried out the last object by exempting from fee the son of a burgess, if not 'of ability.'

"My second point is, that *libera schola* in all probability does mean 'a school free from the jurisdiction of a superior corporation.' I think I may venture to say that in mediæval law the word *liber* has but one general meaning, namely, *non obnoxius*, 'not under subjection.' But as subjection was of many kinds, so of course



was freedom. Thus the *libertas Romana* was possessed by churches which were free from all ordinary jurisdiction, and only subordinate to the see of Rome. The 'Libera Capella' (Free Chapel) of St. George at Windsor is (or was lately) free from ordinary jurisdiction. A freedom of this kind is what the lawyer or scholar, hearing the phrase *libera schola* in Edward's days, would have understood therefrom; because such was the only known sense of the word *libera*. Can it be doubtful, then, what freedom was implied? Almost all existing schools were *obnoxia*, were attached and subservient to chapters or colleges, while hundreds, attached and subservient to convents, had been just abolished together with these. Edward and his Council desired to restore learning from its ruins, and at the same time to place it under conditions less dependent on ecclesiastical power. They, therefore, chartered all their new schools as *liberae*, exempt from that jurisdiction to which schools had generally been subject; nay, in some instances, as appears from Strype, governors were appointed by Edward himself. To these solid arguments what is opposed? Johnson's authority? Not at all. Johnson merely takes the term 'Free School,' and explains it in the acceptation which he knew to be usual, and which may be true in the case of many schools. He does not allude to the phrase *libera schola*, and there is no proof that he was even acquainted with it."

NOTE.—It should perhaps be pointed out that Mr. A. F. Leach in his *English Schools at the Reformation*, pp. 110–114, argues against Dr. Kennedy's contention. He concludes (p. 113) that the term "Free Grammar School" cannot mean "free from ecclesiastical jurisdiction, for not one of the Free Grammar Schools was free from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary, whose licence was a necessity until the last century. It cannot mean that the master or the school was free from every-one but the Crown, for even in Edward VI.'s foundations, notably Shrewsbury, the statutes had to be approved by the Bishop, and the master was almost invariably appointed by the governors or a college or some other person or body not the Crown."



## LIST OF MASTERS FROM 1561 TO 1798.

[All the names marked with an asterisk in this list are described in Phillips's *History of Shrewsbury* as clergymen, but apparently without any evidence to justify the description. Meighen was certainly a layman, and it is probable that Pigott was so also.]

YEAR.	HEAD MASTER.	SECOND MASTER.	THIRD MASTER.	MASTER OF THE ACCIDENCE SCHOOL, OR FOURTH MASTER.
1562	Rev. Thomas Ashton, <sup>1</sup> M.A., Fellow of Trinity Coll., Camb.	Rev. Thomas Wylton. Resigned July 23rd, 1568	Rev. Richard Atkys . . . . .	
1568	Rev. Thomas Ashton, M.A. Resigned in 1571	Thomas Lawrence, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge	Rev. Richard Atkys . . . . .	
1571	Thomas Lawrence, M.A. Promoted	John Baker, M.A. . . . .	Rev. Richard Atkys . . . . .	
1577	Thomas Lawrence, M.A. Resigned July 19th, 1583	John Baker, M.A. . . . .	Rev. Richard Atkys . . . . .	Roger Kent. <sup>2</sup>
1583	John Meighen, M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Sept. 20th, 1583.	John Baker, M.A. . . . .	Rev. Richard Atkys. Died July 21st, 1587	Roger Kent.
1587	John Meighen, M.A. . . . .	John Baker, M.A. . . . .	William Bailey,* B.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Nominated by the College August 8th, 1587	Roger Kent. Died November 12th, 1588.
1588	John Meighen, M.A. . . . .	John Baker, M.A. . . . .	William Bailey.* Resigned October 30th, 1594	Ralph Jones. Appointed Jan. 23rd, 1588. Ralph Jones.
1594	John Meighen, M.A. . . . .	John Baker, M.A. Died Nov. 27th, 1607. The vacancy was not legally filled up till 1613	Rev. Ralph Gittins, B.A., Scholar of St. John's Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Nov. 15th, 1594	

<sup>1</sup> Ashton's appointment was dated June 21st, 1561, but the school does not appear to have been in full working order before Christmas, 1562.

<sup>2</sup> Provision was first made for an Accidence School in the ordinances of 1577.

1612	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. Ralph Gittins, M.A. Promoted October 1st, 1612	Ralph Jones,* 1st, 1612.	Promoted Oct. 1st, 1612.	Hugh Spurstowe. October 1st, 1612.	Appointed
1613	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. Ralph Gittins, M.A. Removed by decree of the Court of Chancery, Sept. 12, 1613	Ralph Jones *	.	Hugh Spurstowe.	
1613	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. Andrew Studley, M.A., of Hart Hall, Oxford. Nominated by the College Oct. 19th, 1613	Ralph Jones *	.	Hugh Spurstowe.	
1627	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. Andrew Studley, M.A. Resigned in October, 1627	Ralph Jones.*	Resigned in October, 1627	Hugh Spurstowe.	
1627	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. James Brooke, M.A., Fellow of Gonville and Caius Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Nov. 19th, 1627	Rev. David Evans, B.A., Jesus Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Nov. 19th, 1627	.	Hugh Spurstowe.	
1631	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. James Brooke, M.A. Resigned in March, 1631	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	.	Hugh Spurstowe.	
1631	John Meighen, M.A.	Rev. Ralph Gittins, M.A. Nominated by the College April 21st, 1631	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	.	Hugh Spurstowe.	
1635	John Meighen, M.A. Resigned September 2nd, 1635	Rev. Ralph Gittins, M.A.	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	.	Hugh Spurstowe. Died Oct. 19th, 1636.	
1637	Rev. Thomas Chaloner, <sup>1</sup> M.A.; Jesus Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Feb. 17th, 1637	Rev. Ralph Gittins, M.A. Resigned July 16th, 1638	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	.	Ralph Jackson, <sup>2</sup> M.A., New Inn Hall, Oxford. Probably appointed soon after Chaloner's election.	
1638	Rev. Thomas Chaloner, M.A.	Rev. David Evans, M.A. Promoted July 21st, 1638	Robert Ogden,* B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Sept. 15th, 1638	.	Ralph Jackson, M.A. Resigned in November, 1643.	

<sup>1</sup> After Meighen's resignation the College nominated in turn Mr. Evans and Mr. John More, but the Bailiffs on November 20th, 1635, installed Mr. John Harding in the highest room, and, though his appointment was quite illegal, he received the stipends both of Head Master and Catechist for six months.

<sup>2</sup> See school register. Mr. Jackson's name is not mentioned either by Hotchkiss or Phillips.

YEAR.	HEAD MASTER.	SECOND MASTER.	THIRD MASTER.	MASTER OF THE ACCIDENCE SCHOOL, OR FOURTH MASTER.
1643	Rev. Thomas Chaloner, M.A. *	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	Robert Ogden, * M.A. .	Rev. Peter Lloyd. <sup>1</sup> Probably appointed on Mr. Jackson's resignation in 1643.
1645	Rev. Thomas Chaloner, M.A. Deprived and expelled from Shrewsbury after the capture of the town in February, 1648	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	Robert Ogden, * M.A. .	Rev. Peter Lloyd.
1646	Rev. Richard Pigott, * M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the Corporation November 4th, 1646	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	Robert Ogden, * M.A. Probably resigned in 1649	Rev. Peter Lloyd. Probably resigned in 1649.
1649	Rev. Richard Pigott, * M.A. .	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	Mr. Harrison <sup>2</sup> . . .	Mr. Franklin. <sup>2</sup> Probably resigned in 1650.
1650	Rev. Richard Pigott, * M.A. .	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	Mr. Harrison.* Probably resigned in 1651	Robert Goddard. <sup>3</sup> Probably appointed in 1650.
1651	Rev. Richard Pigott, * M.A. .	Rev. David Evans, M.A.	Rev. Isaac Solden. <sup>4</sup> Probably appointed in 1651	Robert Goddard.
1658	Rev. Richard Pigott, * M.A. .	Rev. David Evans, M.A. Died May 26th, 1658	Rev. Isaac Solden. Probably resigned in 1658	Robert Goddard.
1659	Rev. Richard Pigott, * M.A. Deprived on Sept. 1st, 1662	Rev. Edward Cotton, <sup>5</sup> M.A., Fellow of University College, Oxford. Nominated by St. John's College Dec. 2nd, 1659	Rev. John Taylor, B.A., Brasenose College, Oxford. Nominated by St. John's College December 2nd, 1659	Robert Goddard.
1662	Rev. Thomas Chaloner, M.A. Reappointed	Rev. Edward Cotton, M.A. .	Rev. John Taylor, M.A. .	Robert Goddard.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Lloyd was certainly Fourth Master in 1647. (See *Hutchins MSS.*)

<sup>2</sup> Hutchins says that Mr. Harrison and Mr. Franklin were both appointed in 1649. Their names occur in the school accounts for 1650-51.

<sup>3</sup> Hutchins says that Robert Goddard was appointed in 1650. His name appears in the school accounts for 1652-53.

<sup>4</sup> Hutchins puts Solden's appointment in 1657, but his name appears in the register of benefactors as Third Master in 1654, and Phillips is probably right in dating his appointment in 1651.

<sup>5</sup> Both Mr. Cotton and Mr. Taylor migrated to St. John's College, and resided there some months before their appointments.

1664	Rev. Thomas Chaloner, M.A. Died in October, 1664	Rev. Edward Cotton, M.A.	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1664	Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A. Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College Nov. 30th, 1664	Rev. Edward Cotton, M.A. Died October 10th, 1668	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1669	Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A.	Rev. John Haynes, <sup>1</sup> M.A., Magdalene Coll., Cambridge. Nominated by the College on Feb. 15th, 1668 <sup>2</sup>	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1672	Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A.	Rev. John Haynes, M.A. Probably resigned in 1672	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1672	Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A.	Rev. Richard Andrews, M.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Nominated by the College on December 12th, 1672	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1672	Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, <sup>3</sup> M.A., Christ Church, Oxford. Illegally placed in the Second Master's room by the Corporation of Shrewsbury	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1687	Rev. Andrew Taylor, M.A. Resigned in November, 1687	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. John Taylor, M.A.	Robert Goddard.
1687	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College Nov. 20th, 1687	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. John Taylor, M.A. <sup>3</sup> Resigned probably in May, 1688	Robert Goddard.

<sup>1</sup> The College originally nominated Mr. Samuel Walthall, one of their own fellows; but after much correspondence with the Corporation Mr. Walthall withdrew, and the College consented to nominate Mr. Haynes.

<sup>2</sup> Prolonged litigation took place between the College and the Corporation, but though the case went in favour of the College, Oswald Smith retained his position till his death in 1715.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Taylor was buried on August 1st, 1688, but it is apparent from the date of the Corporation order that he must have resigned before June 25th.



YEAR.	HEAD MASTER.	SECOND MASTER.	THIRD MASTER.	MASTER OF THE ACCIDENCE SCHOOL, OR FOURTH MASTER.
1688	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Henry Johnson, <sup>1</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College in June, 1688	Robert Goddard.
1688	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. Robert Matthews, B.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Illegally placed in the Third Master's room by order of the Corporation on June 25th, 1688	Robert Goddard. Buried at St. Chad's Dec. 5th, 1699.
1699	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. Robert Matthews, M.A. Buried February 12th, 1701	Francis Clarke, B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb. Appointed in December, 1699.
1701	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. Rowland Tench, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College in February, 1701	Francis Clarke, B.A. Resigned sometime in 1705-1706.
1706	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. Rowland Tench, B.A.	William Kynaston. Appointed apparently as a stop-gap on Mr. Clarke's resignation in 1705-1706.
1706	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. Rowland Tench, B.A.	Joshua Johnson, B.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Appointed in 1706.
1713	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A.	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A.	Joshua Johnson, M.A. Resigned in August, 1713.
1713	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A.	Rev. Oswald Smith, M.A. Died on July 26th, 1715	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A.	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge. Appointed in August, 1713.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Johnson died in September, 1690. It is probable that his death put an end to litigation, and that the College nominated Mr. Matthews, though the formal nomination is not forthcoming.

1715	Rev. Richard Lloyd, M.A. Resigned in June, 1723	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A. Promoted on the death of Mr. Oswald Smith in 1715	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A. Nominated by the College on the promotion of Mr. Tench on August 4th, 1715	Rev. Alexander Hatton, B.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Appointed in August, 1715.
1723	Rev. William Clarke, <sup>1</sup> M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College on Mr. Lloyd's resignation	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A.	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1723	Rev. Hugh Owen, <sup>2</sup> B.A., Jesus Coll., Oxford. Illegally placed in office by the Corporation on July 2nd, 1723	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A.	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1726	Rev. Hugh Owen, M.A. Appointment declared invalid by the House of Lords on Feb. 28th, 1724	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A.	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1727	Rev. Robert Phillips, D.D., Christ Church, Oxford, Official of St. Mary's Church, Shrews- bury. Nominated by the College and admitted June 19th, 1727	Rev. Rowland Tench, M.A. Resigned in 1728	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1728	Rev. Robert Phillips, D.D.	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A. Promoted in 1728	Humphrey Johnson,* B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb. Nomi- nated by the College on Nov. 23rd, 1728	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1735	Rev. Robert Phillips, D.D. Died October 11th, 1735	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Humphrey Johnson,* M.A. Resigned about Oct. 27th, 1735	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Clarke accepted a living before the litigation caused by the action of the Corporation was ended, and never discharged the duties of Head Master.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Hugh Owen is described in the Burgess Roll as in holy orders.

YEAR	HEAD MASTER.	SECOND MASTER.	THIRD MASTER.	MASTER OF THE ACCIDENCE SCHOOL, OR FOURTH MASTER.
1735	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A. Promoted on Oct. 17th, 1735	Rev. John Mall, <sup>1</sup> M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Camb. Nominated by the College in 1735	Rev. John Brickdale,* B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College on November 24th, 1735	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1736	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Mansfield Price, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College Feb. 6th, 1736	Rev. John Brickdale,* B.A. Nominated by the College on November 24th, 1735	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1737	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Mansfield Price, M.A. Resigned Sept. 9th, 1737	Rev. John Brickdale,* B.A. Resigned October 10th, 1737	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1737	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Humphrey Parry, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. Admitted Nov. 8th, 1737	Rev. Arthur Vaughan,* B.A. Nominated by the College. Admitted to room on Nov. 21st, 1737	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1740	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A.	Rev. Humphrey Parry, M.A.	Rev. Arthur Vaughan,* B.A. Resigned Sept. 30th, 1740	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A.
1740	Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, M.A. Resigned July 2nd, 1754	Rev. Humphrey Parry, M.A. Resigned in July, 1754	Rev. John Brooke, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by College Oct. 8th, 1740. Admitted Oct 15th	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A. Promoted July 25th, 1754.
1754	Rev. Charles Newling, M.A., Magdalene Coll., Cambridge. Nominated by the College July 6th, 1754	Rev. John Brooke, M.A. Promoted in July, 1754	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A. Nominated by the College on July 25th, 1754	Samuel Johnson.
1755	Rev. Charles Newling, M.A.	Rev. John Brooke, M.A.	Rev. Alexander Hatton, M.A. Died August 10th, 1755	Samuel Johnson.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Mall was Head Master of Bishop's Stortford School at the time of his appointment to Shrewsbury, and appears, on consideration, to have preferred to remain there.

1758	Rev. Charles Newling, M.A.	Rev. John Brooke, M.A.	Rev. James Atcherley, B.A., Magdalene Coll., Cambridge. Nominated by the College on November 3rd, 1755	Rev. James Atcherley, B.A.	Samuel Johnson, jun. <sup>2</sup> Appointed about 1758.	Samuel Johnson. Resigned about 1758.
1763	Rev. Charles Newling, M.A.	Rev. John Brooke, <sup>1</sup> M.A. Died November 29th, 1763	Rev. James Atcherley, M.A. Promoted in December, 1763	Mr. Thomas Humphries, <sup>3</sup> B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb. Nomin- ated by College Dec. 8th, 1763	Samuel Johnson, jun. Became mad in May, 1768.	
1770	Rev. Charles Newling, M.A. Resigned Dec. 25th, 1770		Rev. James Atcherley, M.A.	Rev. Thomas Humphries, M.A.	Rev. Samuel Johnson.	
1771	Rev. James Atcherley, M.A. Promoted in 1771	Rev. Thomas Humphries, <sup>4</sup> M.A. Promoted in 1771		Rev. Samuel Johnson, <sup>5</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge. Nominated by the College. Admitted on April 8th, 1771	Mr. John Rowland, <sup>6</sup> B.A., Emmanuel Coll., Cambridge.	
1783	Rev. James Atcherley, M.A.	Rev. Thomas Humphries, M.A. Died on October 22nd, 1783		Rev. Samuel Johnson, M.A.	Rev. John Rowland, B.A.	
1783	Rev. James Atcherley, M.A.	Rev. Samuel Johnson, M.A. Promoted in October, 1783		Rev. James Matthews, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Mag. Coll., Camb. Nominated by the College Nov. 7th, 1783	Rev. John Rowland, B.A.	
1798	Rev. James Atcherley, M.A. Resigned on June 30th, 1798	Rev. Samuel Johnson, M.A. Resigned on June 30th, 1798		Rev. James Matthews, M.A. Resigned on June 30th, 1798	Rev. John Rowland, M.A. Resigned on Aug. 31st, 1798	

<sup>1</sup> Mr. John Brooke was Rector of Upton Parva as well as Second Master when he died.  
<sup>2</sup> Mr. Samuel Johnson, jun., was son of the previous Accidence Master, who resigned in his son's favour. He is first described in the school accounts as a clergyman in the year 1768-69.

<sup>3</sup> The Rev. Thomas Humphries did not receive his B.A. degree till 1764.

<sup>4</sup> After Mr. Johnson's recovery he graduated B.A. at Cambridge in 1771 and M.A. in 1774. He seems to have been allowed to retain his mastership till his death. His father possibly did the work for him during his illness and absence at Cambridge, but the payments each year are entered in the school accounts all the

<sup>5</sup> Up to 1787 the name is spelt Rowlands, but after that the "s" is omitted. Mr. Rowland matriculated at Cambridge before he was made Fourth Master. a unmarried man when he became Accidence Master. He was twenty-two years old when he went up to Oxford. It is certain that he took holy orders, and that he was

<sup>6</sup> Mr. James Matthews is described as "Clerk" in the College nomination paper.



## LIST OF MASTERS FROM 1798 TO 1898

NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
Rev. Samuel Butler, <sup>1</sup> D.D., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Head Master.	July, 1798 .	June, 1836.
Rev. William Adams, <sup>2</sup> M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford, Second Master.	July, 1798 .	Sept. 29th, 1798.
John Jeudwine, <sup>3</sup> M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb., Second Master . . . . .	November, 1798.	Died Oct. 22nd, 1835.
Rev. R. Fizell <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	1798 (?) .	1810 (?).
Mr. McEvoy, <sup>5</sup> Writing and Assistant Master . . . . .	1798 (?) .	1814.
Rev. Evan Griffith, <sup>6</sup> B.D., St. John's College, Cambridge . . . . .	January, 1810.	Midsummer, 1820.
Mr. Fitzpatrick, <sup>7</sup> Writing and Assistant Master . . . . .	1814 .	Midsummer, 1821.
Charles Woodward Smythe, <sup>8</sup> M.A., Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.	1816 .	Christmas, 1818.
Mr. Field, <sup>9</sup> Temporary Master . . . . .	1818 .	Christmas, 1818.
Charles Smith, <sup>10</sup> B.A., Peterhouse, Cambridge . . . . .	1819 .	1821.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Samuel Butler did not take his D.D. degree till 1810.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Adams graduated B.A. in 1783, M.A. in 1785, B.D. and D.D. in 1808. He was the son of Mr. John Adams, of Shrewsbury, and matriculated at Pembroke May 20th, 1779, aged 13. (FOSTER'S *Alumni Oxonienses*.) After his resignation a Mr. Ebrey was allowed £25 by the Trustees to assist the Head Master till Christmas.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Jeudwine was tenth Wrangler in 1794.

<sup>4</sup> The name of the Rev. R. Fizell, Assistant Master, occurs in the school register under the year 1808.

<sup>5</sup> From the school register we learn that Mr. McEvoy was Writing and Assistant Master in 1813. No traces of any other Assistant Masters can be found until 1810.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Evan Griffith was in holy orders, and a member of St. John's College, Cambridge, when Dr. Butler wrote to him, in July, 1809, arranging that he should come to Shrewsbury as an Assistant Master in the following January (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 34,583). He graduated B.D. as a "ten year man" in 1813.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Fitzpatrick became Writing and Assistant Master at Shrewsbury in 1814, and remained there for seven years. He was known all the time by some fictitious name, which is not given in the Butler papers.

<sup>8</sup> We learn from a letter from Dr. Butler to the Trustees, dated March 18th, 1814, that up to that time he had only had two assistants, one for the upper school and another for the lower. Mr. C. W. Smythe appears to have been engaged as a second assistant for the upper school in 1816.

<sup>9</sup> In a letter to the Rev. Evan Griffith, dated Sept. 30th, 1818, Dr. Butler mentions his resolve to engage Mr. Field as a Temporary Master. His name occurs subsequently in a memorandum of Mrs. Butler's, dated Dec. 20th, 1818.

<sup>10</sup> The Rev. Charles Smith graduated as B.A. in 1819, as M.A. in 1822, and as B.D. in 1829. He returned to Cambridge in 1821 as fellow and tutor of his college, and was also made Vicar of St. Mary-the-Less, Cambridge. In 1833 he was instituted to the college living of Newton, in Suffolk. Died July 21st, 1891, aged 93.

NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
Mr. Wharton <sup>1</sup>	1819	Resigned in 1820 on account of illness.
Thomas Sheepshanks, <sup>2</sup> B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.	August, 1820	Christmas, 1824.
Richard Periam Thursfield, <sup>3</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.	August, 1820	Christmas, 1822.
Mr. J. Smith, <sup>4</sup> Writing and Assistant Master	August, 1821	1847.
James Harrison, <sup>5</sup> Scholar of Queen's College, Oxford.	August, 1822	Christmas, 1822.
Frederic Iliff, <sup>6</sup> B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge	January, 1823.	Christmas, 1833.
John Mort Wakefield, <sup>7</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	January, 1825.	Midsummer, 1852.
Frederic Hildyard, <sup>8</sup> B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.	1825	1826.
Edward Baines, <sup>9</sup> B.A., Christ's College, Cambridge	1825	Christmas, 1828.
Nathan Hubbersty, <sup>10</sup> B.A., scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge	Probably Feb., 1826	Probably in 1828.

<sup>1</sup> The identity of this master is uncertain. Probably he was John Thomas Wharton, of Pembroke College, Cambridge, who graduated B.A. in 1817 and M.A. in 1820.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Sheepshanks, who was an old Salopian, and had taken his degree in January, wrote to Dr. Butler on March 22nd, 1820, offering himself as successor to Wharton, who was about to resign on account of illness. He was ordained while he was a Shrewsbury master.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Thursfield was son of the Rev. Richard Thursfield, of Pittingham, near Wolverhampton. At Shrewsbury School, 1810-15; scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; second Bell's Scholar, 1816; B.A., 1819; Curate of Shrawardine, Shropshire, 1850; Rector of Sidbury, Bridgnorth, 1852-1874.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. J. Smith was universally known among the boys as "Piff." His form room was for many years in a small house at the back of the Ball Courts. It was for a long time the custom for all boys below and including the "Fourth" to go to "Piff's" room on Saturdays to say the Catechism.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Harrison was son of the Rev. Robert Harrison, of Temple Sowerby, Westmoreland. He matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, on June 16th, 1814, aged 20, and was a scholar of his college from 1815 to 1818.—FOSTER.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Iliff graduated B.A. in 1823, M.A. in 1826, and D.D. in 1838. He was ordained soon after going to Shrewsbury as a master.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Wakefield was son of John Wakefield, Esq., of Northwich, Cheshire. At Shrewsbury School, 1816-1821; B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1825; M.A., 1828. Had accepted a mastership at his old school before January 12th, 1825 (Butler Papers, 34, 585). Candidate for the second-mastership in 1847, when all the assistant masters united in a testimonial to the electors in his favour. Left Shrewsbury in 1852, his mind having given way, and died shortly afterwards. He was Incumbent of Little Berwick at the time of his death.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Frederic Hildyard was son of the Rev. William Hildyard. He graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, B.A. in 1825 and M.A. in 1828; fellow and tutor of Trinity Hall, 1832; Rector of Swannington, Norfolk, 1840-1891. Died November 4th, 1891. Educated at Shrewsbury School, 1813-1821.

<sup>9</sup> Mr. Baines was an Old Salopian, 1816-1820; B.A. (4th Classic) 1824. He resigned his mastership on being appointed one of the examiners for the Classical Tripos of 1829.

<sup>10</sup> Mention is made of a master named Hubbersty in a letter written to Dr. Butler by one of the other masters in October, 1827, and his name occurs again in a letter written by Miss Butler to her brother at Cambridge in the following month. Mr. W. O. Foster, of Apley Park, remembers being admitted by him at Bromfield's Hall in August, 1826. We may safely identify this master with Mr. Nathan Hubbersty (B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1826), who ultimately succeeded his father, the Rev. Nathan Hubbersty, B.D., as Head Master of Wirksworth Grammar School about 1832. The Shrewsbury master took holy orders, and was made P.C. of Detbick, in Derbyshire, in 1839. A younger brother of his was at Shrewsbury School from January, 1827, to June, 1829. He resigned the head-mastership of Wirksworth in 1851, but was still living in 1881.

NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
John Price, <sup>1</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	1826	October, 1827.
Benjamin Hall Kennedy, <sup>2</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	Oct. 14th, 1827.	October, 1828.
John Young, <sup>3</sup> B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge	Nov., 1827	Midsummer, 1838.
Thomas Williamson Peile, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.	Oct., 1828	Christmas, 1828.
Arthur Willis, <sup>4</sup> B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge	Feb., 1829	Midsummer, 1838.
Thomas Butler, <sup>5</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.	1829	1834.
Thomas Frederic Henney, <sup>6</sup> B.A., Pembroke College, Oxford	Feb., 1834	Midsummer, 1838.
Thomas Lloyd, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Christ Church, Oxford	1834	1836.
The Rev. James Ind Welldon, <sup>8</sup> B.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Second Master	1835	Midsummer, 1843.
The Rev. Benjamin Hall Kennedy, D.D., St. John's College, Cambridge, Head Master	1836	Midsummer, 1866.
Signor Albizzi, <sup>9</sup> Modern Language Master	1836	Christmas, 1841.
John James Barlow, B.A., <sup>10</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge	February, 1838.	Midsummer, 1840.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Price was son of the Rev. James Price, of Pwllcrochen, near Abergele. At Shrewsbury School, 1818-1822. Proceeded to college in October, 1822; recorded equal to Bell Scholar, 1823; third Classic, 1826.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. B. H. Kennedy went into residence at Cambridge in October, 1828, having accepted a classical lectureship at St. John's College. His place at Shrewsbury was taken by Mr. T. W. Peile.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Young succeeded Mr. John Price in November, 1827. B.A., 1825 (head of second class in Classical Tripos); M.A., 1828; D.D., 1840. Head Master of the Keeper Grammar School, Houghton-le-Spring, 1838; resigned 1856. Died 1872. Ordained soon after he went to Shrewsbury. Said to have been an able man, and an excellent reader and preacher. He was House Master in Jee's Hall all his time at Shrewsbury.

<sup>4</sup> Writing to her son at Cambridge on February 15th, 1829, Mrs. Butler alludes to Mr. Willis having just begun work as a master. He graduated B.A. in 1828 and M.A. in 1831. Ordained while at Shrewsbury. House Master in Bromfield's Hall. Head Master of Ludlow Grammar School, 1838-1850.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Thomas Butler was the Head Master's only son. Born November 28th, 1806. At Shrewsbury School, 1815-1825. Head boy during last few months of his stay at school. Recorded equal to second Bell Scholar, 1826; B.A. (Senior Optime and seventh Classic), 1829; M.A., 1839; Rector of Langar, 1834. Died 1886.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Henney left Shrewsbury in 1838, and was succeeded by the Rev. W. J. Kennedy. He resided at Oxford the rest of his life. Died 1859.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Thomas Lloyd, son of William Lloyd, Esq., of Ludlow. At Shrewsbury School, 1815-1830; B.A. (2nd class lit. hum.), 1834; M.A., 1837. His name occurs in the prize lists of 1826 as a master, but not in those of 1837. Head Master of Hanley Castle, Shropshire, 1845. Died 1871. He appears to have succeeded Mr. T. Butler some time between Midsummer and Christmas, 1834.

<sup>8</sup> Afterwards for many years Head Master of Tonbridge School.

<sup>9</sup> It appears from a letter written by Bishop Butler on November 29th, 1836, that French had already become part of the regular school work at Shrewsbury (*Life and Letters of Dr. Butler*, vol. ii. p. 205).

<sup>10</sup> Mr. Barlow graduated B.A. in 1838 and M.A. in 1850. His name stood first in the list of Senior Optimes in 1838, and he also took a third class in Classics. He was House Master in Jee's Hall, and appears to have had the chief charge of the mathematical instruction in the school for a time, besides taking one of the lower forms. Subsequently ordained. Vicar of St. Mark's, Gloucester, 1847-1868; Vicar of Kempford, 1868. Died 1880.



NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
John William Hall, <sup>1</sup> M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge	August, 1838.	October, 1844.
The Rev. William James Kennedy, <sup>2</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	August, 1838.	Midsummer, 1840.
William Linwood, <sup>3</sup> B.A., Student of Christ Church, Oxford	August, 1840.	Christmas, 1842.
Thomas Saunders Evans, <sup>4</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	February, 1841.	October, 1847.
Alfred Tolver Paget, <sup>5</sup> B.A., Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge	August, 1840.	Michaelmas, 1855.
Thomas Amand Bentley, <sup>6</sup> Modern Language Master	February, 1842.	1893.
Edwin Hamilton Gifford, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Second Master	August, 1843.	Christmas, 1847.
Vanden Bempd� Johnstone, <sup>8</sup> B.A., Emmanuel College, Cambridge	February, 1843.	1851.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Hall graduated B.A. in 1835 and M.A. in 1838. He was ordained in 1840, and is said to have been an Assistant Curate at St. Mary's Church; Assistant Master at Cheltenham College, 1844-1846; Curate of West and South Hammerfield, Essex, 1846-1849; Curate of Woolly, near Wakefield, 1849-1868; Curate of Writtle and Vicar of Highwood, Essex, 1871-1876; Vicar of Badesley South, Lymington, 1877. Died 1893.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. W. J. Kennedy, youngest son of the Rev. Rann Kennedy, was educated at Birmingham. He gained the Porson Prize at Cambridge, and would, in Dr. Kennedy's opinion, have been among the first three in the Classical Tripos had he not failed to obtain a place in the list of Senior Optimes. B.A., 1837; M.A., 1844; Secretary to the National Society, 1843-1849; one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, 1848-1872; Vicar of Barnwood, Gloucestershire, 1877. Died 1891.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Linwood, only son of William Linwood, Esq., of Birmingham, was educated at Birmingham before going to Oxford. While at college he gained the Hertford, Ireland, Craven and Boden Sanscrit Scholarships. First class in lit. hum., 1839; Student of Christ Church, 1837-1851; ordained while at Shrewsbury; Curate of St. Chad's, 1840-1842; resided at Oxford for many years after leaving Shrewsbury; Public Examiner in Classics, 1850-51. Died September 7th, 1878, at Birchfield, Birmingham. Author of a Lexicon to *Æschylus*, an edition of *Sophocles*, and other classical works (*Dict. Nat. Biog.*).

<sup>4</sup> Mr. T. S. Evans, son of David Evans, Esq., of Belper, surgeon, was born in 1816. At Shrewsbury School, 1829-1835; Porson Prizeman at Cambridge, 1838; B.A., 1839; M.A., 1845; ordained by Bishop of Lichfield, 1844; Curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1846-1847; Assistant Master at Rugby, 1847-1862; Canon of Durham, and Professor of Greek and Classical Literature in Durham University, 1862. An excellent draughtsman and modeller, and noted from his boyhood for his enthusiastic affection for architecture. He had great skill and taste in verse composition, and many of the gems in *Sabrinæ Corolla* are his work. Professor Evans died at Weston-super-Mare in 1889, and was buried at Durham (*Memoirs of T. S. Evans, D.D., late Canon of Durham*, by JOSEPH WAITE, D.D.).

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Paget was nineteenth Wrangler in 1839; ordained 1841; M.A., 1842; Curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1843-1847; Rector of Kirstead, Norfolk, 1855-1862. His dry humour and clever caricatures are still fresh in the memory of many Old Salopians. He took Jee's Hall when Mr. Johnstone left in 1851, but moved into the house under the archway in the following year.

<sup>6</sup> After more than fifty years' connection with the school Mr. Bentley died on May 3rd, 1893. For many years he filled the office of "Penal Master," or "Secretary for Discipline." A stained glass window has been placed in the school chapel as a memorial of his long services to Shrewsbury.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Gifford was at Shrewsbury School, January, 1838, to October, 1839; Pitt University Scholar, 1842; fifteenth Wrangler, Senior Chancellor's Medallist, and bracketed Senior Classic, 1843; M.A., 1846; D.D., 1860; ordained by Bishop of Lichfield, 1844; Head Master of Birmingham, 1848-1862; Honorary Canon of Worcester, 1853-1877; Select Preacher at Cambridge, 1864 and 1869; Rector of Walgrave, Northants, 1866-1875; Examining Chaplain to Bishop of Peterborough, 1865-1869, and to Bishop of London, 1869-1889; Warburtonian Lecturer at Lincoln's Inn, 1871-1877; Rector of Much Hadham, Herts, 1875-1886; Select Preacher at Oxford, 1879; Archdeacon of London and Canon of St. Paul's, 1884-1889.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Johnstone, who had been at Shrewsbury School as a boy from 1838 to 1839, was a scholar of his college; B.A., 1843; M.A., 1847; ordained 1844; Curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1845-1852; House Master in Jee's Hall for some years. After leaving Shrewsbury Mr. Johnstone became Curate of Hurstmonceaux, Sussex, and subsequently of Ithen, near Stoke. He died April 15th, 1858.



NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
The Rev. William Arnold Buckland, <sup>1</sup> B.A., Christ Church, Oxford.	August, 1844	Christmas, 1846.
The Rev. George Charles Swayne, <sup>2</sup> M.A., Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford	February, 1847.	Midsummer, 1847.
Thomas Northage Henshaw, Writing and Accidence Master	Before Midsummer, 1847.	1870.
The Rev. William Burbury, <sup>3</sup> M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Second Master	January, 1848.	1861.
Edward Calvert, <sup>4</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.	August, 1852.	February, 1859.
The Rev. Gerald Moultrie, <sup>5</sup> B.A., Exeter College, Oxford	Before Midsummer, 1853.	Christmas, 1854.
The Rev. George Farncombe Wright, <sup>6</sup> M.A., Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge	Michaelmas, 1855.	Christmas, 1858.
Henry Greenwood, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Demy of Magdalen College, Oxford	February, 1855.	Midsummer, 1866.
Eli Willcox Crabtree, <sup>8</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	February, 1859.	Midsummer, 1860.
Herbert Clementi Smith, <sup>9</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.	1859	1862.
The Rev. William Eccles Jones, <sup>10</sup> M.A., Jesus College, Oxford	February, 1859.	Midsummer, 1860.
Edward Calvert, <sup>11</sup> M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.	August, 1860.	1863.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Buckland was a nephew of Dean Buckland and of Dr. Arnold. B.A. (3rd class lit. hum.), 1843; M.A., 1845; ordained 1843; Vicar of Ravensthorp, Northants, 1847. Died 1865.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Swayne graduated B.A. (2nd class lit. hum.) in 1839; M.A., 1841; B.D., 1851; ordained 1843; Scholar of C.C.C., 1835-46; Fellow, 1846-1851; Chaplain of Havre-le-Grace, 1877.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Burbury graduated B.A. as fourth classic in 1843 and M.A. in 1846. In 1852 he married Charlotte, eldest daughter of Dr. Kennedy. In 1861 he became Rector of West Felton, Shropshire. Died 1866.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Calvert, scholar of St. John's College, graduated B.A. in 1852, M.A. in 1855, and LL.D. in 1870.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Gerald Moultrie, eldest son of the Rev. John Moultrie, the poet, was educated at Rugby and Oxford. B.A., 1852; M.A., 1856; Chaplain to Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry, 1855-1864; Chaplain of Barrow Gurney, 1864-1869; Vicar of Southleigh, 1869; Warden of St. James's College, Southleigh, 1873. Died April 25th, 1885. Author of various poems and hymns (*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*).

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Wright was seventh Wrangler in 1853; M.A., 1856; Assistant Master at Wellington College, 1859-1861; Rector of Lambourne, Essex, 1867-1893; Rector of St. Mary Abchurch with St. Lawrence Pountney, 1893.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Greenwood matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, December 14th, 1848, aged 18. Crewe Exhibitioner at Lincoln College, 1849-1851; Demy of Magdalen, 1851-1866; B.A., 1852; M.A., 1855; Rector of Beelsby, in Lincolnshire, 1866-1896. Died October, 1896, at Scarborough.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Crabtree was eighth Wrangler and in the third class of the Classical Tripos in 1858; M.A., 1861; Fellow and Tutor of St. Catherine's College, Cambridge, 1860-1867; H.M. Inspector of Schools, 1867-1874. Died 1874.

<sup>9</sup> Mr. H. C. Smith, scholar of St. John's College, graduated B.A. (2nd class, Classics) in 1859; M.A., 1862; ordained by the Bishop of Lichfield, 1859; Curate of Reepham, Norfolk, 1862-64; Curate of Battle, Sussex, 1864-67; Curate of Grantham, 1867-70; Precentor and Minor Canon of Manchester Cathedral, 1870-78; Fishbourne Lecturer at Berwick-on-Tweed, 1877.

<sup>10</sup> Mr. W. E. Jones was educated at Shrewsbury School; Scholar of Jesus College, Oxford, 1853-59; 2nd class in Mods. and 2nd class in lit. hum.; B.A., 1856; M.A., 1859; Fellow of his College, 1859-81; Greek Lecturer, 1860; Latin Lecturer, 1862; Vice-President, 1873; Bursar, 1878.

<sup>11</sup> Mr. Calvert was appointed Head Master of the Government School in Trinidad in 1858, but after a few months he resigned, and, returning to England, became again an Assistant Master at Shrewsbury in August, 1860; appointed School Bailiff and Treasurer in 1866; resigned 1897.

NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
George William Fisher, <sup>1</sup> M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge.	August, 1860.	Christmas, 1871.
The Rev. John Rigg, <sup>2</sup> B.D., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Second Master.	1861	1872.
Edwin Trevor Septimus Carr, <sup>3</sup> B.A., Christ's College, Cambridge	Easter, 1862.	Michaelmas, 1862.
The Rev. John Samuel Lillistone, <sup>4</sup> M.A., Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge	Michaelmas, 1862.	1863.
The Rev. John Chapman, <sup>5</sup> B.A., Emmanuel College, Cambridge.	1863	May, 1870.
The Rev. Thomas Wolseley-Lewis, <sup>6</sup> M.A., Jesus College, Oxford	September, 1863.	June, 1865.
George Preston, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge	Midsummer, 1864.	1869.
The Rev. Frederic William Burbidge, <sup>8</sup> M.A., Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge	Michaelmas, 1865.	1867.
The Rev. Henry Whitehead Moss, <sup>9</sup> B.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Head Master.	August, 1866.	
George Thomas Hall, <sup>10</sup> B.A., Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge.	October, 1867.	
Charles John Scott Churchill, <sup>11</sup> B.A., Corpus Christi College, Oxford	February, 1870.	

<sup>1</sup> Mr. G. W. Fisher was Scholar and Tancred Student of Christ's College, Cambridge, 1854-60; thirty-third Wrangler, 1857; M.A., 1860; ordained by Bishop of Lichfield, 1862; Diocesan Inspector of Schools in Dioceses of Rochester and St. Alban's, 1872-81. Died 1898.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Rigg was eleventh Wrangler and in the third class of the Classical Tripos in 1846; M.A., 1849; B.D., 1856. The last Second Master. Resigned early in 1872 and died soon after. The fine west window in the School Chapel at Kingsland was placed there in his memory.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Carr was elected Bell's Scholar in 1859, and graduated B.A. as eighth Classic in 1862; M.A., 1865; Fellow and Assistant Tutor of St. Catherine's College in 1862; President and Tutor, 1868; Rector of Little Shelford, Cambs., 1893.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Lillistone graduated B.A. (ninth Classic) in 1855; M.A., 1858; Classical Lecturer, 1863-1869, at Jesus College.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Chapman graduated B.A. in the second class of the Classical Tripos in 1856.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Wolseley-Lewis was at Shrewsbury School 1852-1854; Scholar of Jesus College, Oxford, 1855; second class in Class. Mods. in 1857; first class in Natural Science in 1858; Second Master of Llanrwst Grammar School, 1860; Assistant Master of Llandovery Grammar School, 1861-1863; Head Master of Llanrwst, 1865-1870; Second Master of Junior Department in Cheltenham College, 1870-1892.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Preston was educated at Shrewsbury, and took a first class in the Classical Tripos at Cambridge in 1864; Fellow of Magdalene College, 1865-1869; Assistant Master at Shrewsbury School, 1864-1870, and at King Edward's School, Birmingham, 1870-1872; ordained 1869; Head Master of Ruthin G. S., 1872-1875; Head Master of the King's School, Chester, 1875-1888; Rector of Fransham, Norfolk, 1888.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Burbidge was fifth Senior Optime and seventh in the first class of the Classical Tripos in 1862; M.A., 1865; ordained 1865; Assistant Master of Eastbourne College, 1867-1869; Vice-Principal of Trinity College, Eastbourne, 1869-1872; Principal of Saltley Training College, 1872.

<sup>9</sup> Mr. H. W. Moss graduated B.A. in 1864, and was ordained by the Bishop of Ely. His college and university distinctions are recorded elsewhere. Appointed Prebendary of Hereford in 1887.

<sup>10</sup> Mr. G. T. Hall graduated as thirty-eighth Wrangler and in the second class of the Classical Tripos in 1867; M.A., 1870; ordained by the Bishop of Lichfield, 1867. Educated at Shrewsbury School, and had been head boy for some time when he left in 1863.

<sup>11</sup> Mr. C. J. S. Churchill took a second class in Classical Moderations in 1867; B.A., 1870; M.A., 1872; ordained by the Bishop of Lichfield, 1880.

NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
Mr. Webster, Writing and Assistant Master	1870	1882.
Reuben Saward, <sup>1</sup> B.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.	May, 1871.	Christmas, 1874.
John Clement Primrose Aldous, <sup>2</sup> B.A., Jesus College, Cambridge	February, 1872.	1875.
Richard Prowde Smith, <sup>3</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	September, 1872	Midsummer 1873.
Arthur Herman Gilkes, <sup>4</sup> B.A., Christ Church, Oxford	January, 1873	Midsummer, 1885.
George Herbert Lock, <sup>5</sup> B.A., Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge	October, 1873.	
Edward Branthwaite Moser, <sup>6</sup> B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge	January, 1875.	
Harry Brunning Constance Delevingne, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Jesus College, Cambridge	September, 1875.	Christmas, 1877.
Arthur Frederic Chance, <sup>8</sup> B.A., Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge.	May, 1880.	
Frank Ewan Bennett, <sup>9</sup> M.A., New College, Oxford	September, 1883.	
William Smith Ingrams, <sup>10</sup> B.A., Exeter College, Oxford.	1883.	
Walter Dodsworth Haydon, <sup>11</sup> B.A., New College, Oxford	September, 1884.	
Thomas Edward Pickering, <sup>12</sup> B.A., University College, Oxford	September, 1885.	
Rev. Thomas Alexander Ashburnham Chirol, <sup>13</sup> M.A., Exeter College, Oxford	September, 1885.	1890.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Saward graduated B.A. as fourth Classic in 1870 and M.A. in 1874; elected Fellow of his college in 1871, and retained his fellowship till 1879.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. J. C. P. Aldous was nineteenth Wrangler in 1872; M.A., 1875; Fellow of Jesus College, 1874; ordained 1872; Chief Naval Instructor on board H.M. training ship *Britannia*, 1875; Chaplain to cadets, 1879-1896; Curate of Townstal, Dartmouth, 1896; Vicar of Duffield, Derbyshire, 1897.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. R. P. Smith graduated as twenty-eighth Wrangler in 1865; M.A., 1874.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. A. H. Gilkes was educated at Shrewsbury School, 1860-1868; Junior Student of Christ Church, Oxford; first class in Classical Moderations, 1870, and, in the final Classical School, in 1873; Head Master of Dulwich College, 1885.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. G. H. Lock was ninth Wrangler in 1873; elected Fellow in 1873.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. E. B. Moser was educated at Shrewsbury School, 1864-1870; Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; Browne Medal, 1871; eleventh in the first class of the Classical Tripos, 1874.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. H. B. C. Delevingne was a scholar of his college, and graduated as twenty-ninth Wrangler in 1873; ordained by the Bishop of Lichfield, 1876; M.A., 1876; Second Master of Woodbridge Grammar School, 1878-1880; Licensed Preacher in the Diocese of London, 1881. Died September 30th, 1888.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. A. F. Chance was at Shrewsbury School 1870-1876; Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge; Porson Prize 1877 and 1879; bracketed fifth Classic in 1880.

<sup>9</sup> Mr. F. E. Bennett took a second class in Classical Moderations in 1870, and a second class in the final Classical School in 1872; B.A., 1873; M.A., 1874.

<sup>10</sup> Mr. W. S. Ingrams took a fourth class in Natural Science in 1882; B.A., 1883; M.A., 1891; ordained by Bishop of Hereford, 1885; Curate of Meole Brace, Shropshire, 1885.

<sup>11</sup> Mr. W. D. Haydon took a first class in Classical Moderations in 1881, and a third class in the final Classical School in 1883.

<sup>12</sup> Mr. T. E. Pickering was educated at Shrewsbury School; Scholar of University College; first class in Classical Moderations, 1883; second class in the final Classical School, 1885.

<sup>13</sup> Mr. T. A. Chirol gained the Junior University Mathematical Scholarship in 1868; first class in Mathematical Moderations, 1870; M.A., 1873; ordained by the Bishop of Lichfield, 1873; Assistant Master at Denstone College, 1873-76, and at Uppingham, 1879-84.

NAMES.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF RESIGNATION.
Frederick Herbert Bowden-Smith, <sup>1</sup> B.A., Trinity College, Oxford	January, 1886.	Easter, 1891.
Charles John Baker, <sup>2</sup> M.A., Postmaster of Merton College, Oxford	January, 1887.	
Arthur Romney Stokes, <sup>3</sup> M.A., King's College, Cambridge	September, 1889.	
James Hamilton, <sup>4</sup> M.A., Scholar of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge	January, 1890.	
Rashleigh Johnston Duncan, <sup>5</sup> M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford.	May, 1890.	
Henry Bompas Smith, <sup>6</sup> B.A., Scholar of Wadham College, Oxford.	May, 1891.	August, 1897.
Frederic Thomas Prior, <sup>7</sup> B.A., Pembroke College, Cambridge	March 1st, 1891.	
Henry Holden, <sup>8</sup> M.Sc., late Fellow of Owens College, Manchester	September, 1896.	

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Bowden-Smith took a third class in Classical Moderations in 1883, and graduated B.A. in 1885.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. C. J. Baker took a first class in Natural Science in 1882; B.A., 1883; M.A., 1886. He is one of the Mathematical Masters as well as Senior Master in the Natural Science Classes.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. A. R. Stokes graduated B.A. in 1881; second class Classical Tripos; M.A., 1884.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Hamilton has been Chief Master of the Army Class since it was first started in January 1890. He was thirtieth Wrangler in 1884.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. R. J. Duncan took a second class in Classical Moderations in 1882, and a third class in the final Classical School in 1884; B.A., 1884; M.A., 1887. He is a master on the modern side.

<sup>6</sup> Mr. H. Bompas Smith was in the first class in Mathematical Moderations in 1887, and in the first class in the final Classical School in 1890. He was made Head Master of Walsall Grammar School in March, 1897.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. F. T. Prior graduated B.A. in the second class of the Classical Tripos, Division I., Part I., in 1888. He is one of the Army Class Masters.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Holden was formerly Berkeley Fellow in Physics of Owens College.



# LIST OF SCHOOL BAILIFFS

1577 TO 1897

David Longdon <sup>1</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1577-1587
John Coyde <sup>2</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1587-1598
George Phillips <sup>3</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1598-1635
Robert Forster, sen. <sup>4</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1635-1645
Richard Griffiths <sup>5</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1645-1660
Robert Forster, jun. <sup>6</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1660-1683
John Wood <sup>7</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1683-1687
Moses Reynolds <sup>8</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1687-1690
Richard Higgins	.	.	.	.	.	.	1690-1708
Michael Brickdale <sup>9</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1708-1713
Thomas Hewitt <sup>10</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1713-1717
Michael Brickdale <sup>11</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1717-1754
Edward Cotton <sup>12</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.	1754-1756

<sup>1</sup> David Longdon appears to have been a servant of Mr. Ashton, and to have been employed by him in collecting rents, &c., as early as October, 1573. The office of School Bailiff was secured to him by the ordinances of 1577 (see note in Chapter III.). Longdon died in December, 1586.

<sup>2</sup> The name of John Coyde, oppidan, occurs in the fourth class in the school list of 1562. The date of his appointment is June 7th, 1587.

<sup>3</sup> George Phillips's name is joined with that of John Coyde in the audit of 1598. Afterwards it occurs alone. He resigned office April 10th, 1635, on account of blindness. He belonged to the company of Shermen. His bond for £600 (school account-book), which is among the town records, is dated April 12th, 1614.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Forster, sen., was a bookseller and stationer of Shrewsbury. His name is found in Chaloner's list of his "familiar friends." He was deprived of his office on the capture of Shrewsbury by the Puritans. After the Restoration Mr. Forster was twice elected mayor—in 1661 and 1677.

<sup>5</sup> Richard Griffiths' time of office exactly synchronised with that of Mr. Head Master Pigott.

<sup>6</sup> Robert Forster, jun., draper, was son of the former School Bailiff, and was appointed to the same office when Richard Griffiths was deprived in 1660. He appears to have been an alderman of Shrewsbury, and to have married Margaret, daughter of Dr. George Griffith, Bishop of St. Asaph. He died in 1687, aged 63.

<sup>7</sup> John Wood is described in his nomination paper as alderman, clothworker, and burgess. He was nominated on the resignation of Mr. Robert Forster, gentleman, by Mr. Edward Gosnall, Mayor, and Mr. Andrew Taylor, Head Master. The date of the nomination is March 30th, 1683. A boy of the name of John Wood was admitted at Shrewsbury School as an oppidan in 1649.

<sup>8</sup> Moses Reynolds was required to give a bond of £700.

<sup>9</sup> Michael Brickdale, who is described in the burgess roll of 1707 as a plateworker, was, according to Owen and Blakeway, a furrier by trade.

<sup>10</sup> Thomas Hewitt was a grocer. His bond for £600 bears date May 23rd, 1713.

<sup>11</sup> On being reappointed School Bailiff Mr. Brickdale entered into a bond of £600. It is dated October 14th, 1717. For further particulars about Mr. Brickdale see Chapters X. and XI.

<sup>12</sup> Edward Cotton, gentleman, appears to have been nominated about the time of the November audit in 1754. His bond for £600 is dated November 27th, 1754. His two sureties were the Rev. John Cotton and the Rev. Richard Cotton, of "The Moor."

John Adams <sup>1</sup>	1756-1777
Grace Adams <sup>2</sup>	1777-1786
Rev. Henry Cay Adams <sup>3</sup>	1786-1805
Rev. W. Gorsuch Rowland <sup>4</sup>	1805-1839
Joshua John Peele <sup>5</sup>	1839-1869
George de Courcy Peele <sup>6</sup>	1869-1885
Edward Calvert <sup>7</sup>	1886-1897
William Maynard How <sup>8</sup>	1897

<sup>1</sup> Mr. John Adams, ironmonger, of Shrewsbury, was probably son of Alderman John Adams, J.P., who died in 1752.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Grace Adams succeeded her husband, Mr. John Adams, as School Bailiff on September 25th, 1777. The sureties for her bond of £1000 were the Rev. William Adams, D.D., of Cound, and Mr. Rowland Littlehales, draper.

<sup>3</sup> Henry Cay Adams was son of Mr. John Adams, of Shrewsbury. He matriculated at Pembroke College, Oxford, December 15th, 1781, aged 18. B.A. (Christ Church), 1785; M.A., 1788. His brother, the Rev. William Adams, was appointed Second Master in July, 1798. After the passing of the Act of 1798, Mr. H. C. Adams was reappointed School Bailiff on October 10th with a stipend of £40 per annum.

<sup>4</sup> From 1828 to 1851 Mr. Rowland was Curate of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury.

<sup>5</sup> Joshua John Peele was for many years town clerk of Shrewsbury.

<sup>6</sup> George de Courcy Peele, son of his predecessor in office, and, like his father, a solicitor, died in 1885.

<sup>7</sup> Edward Calvert, M.A. and LL.D. of St. John's College, Cambridge, was Assistant Master at Shrewsbury School from 1852 to 1858, and again from 1860 to 1863. He was appointed School Bailiff on Mr. de Courcy Peele's death, and resigned the office in 1897.

<sup>8</sup> William Maynard How, M.A. of New College, Oxford, is a solicitor of Shrewsbury.

# SHREWSBURY SCHOOL DISTINCTIONS IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

## HONOURS AT CAMBRIDGE

### *MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS.*

#### WRANGLERS.

1808	William Henry Parry, St. John's College	16th.
1809	John Evans, Clare Hall	6th.
1809	William Robinson Gilby, Trinity College	7th.
1811	Robert Wilson Evans, Trinity College	7th.
1824	William Crawley, Magdalene College	27th.
1826	John Hodgson, Trinity College	16th.
1827	George Ash Butterson, St. John's College	8th.
1828	Thomas Williamson Peile, Trinity College	18th.
1830	Charles Whitley, St. John's College	SENIOR.
1830	Edward Yardley, Magdalene College	40th.
1834	William Henry Trentham, St. John's College	13th.
1835	Francis Proctor, Catherine Hall	30th.
1835	John Cooper, Trinity College	33rd.
1836	William Twiss Turner, Trinity College	15th.
1836	Thomas Emerson Headlam, Trinity College	17th.
1837	Alexander John Ellis <sup>1</sup> (Sharpe), Trinity College	5th.
1837	William Gilson Humphry, Trinity College	27th.
1838	Henry John Hodgson, Trinity College	24th.
1838	George Augustus Chichester May, Magdalene College	36th.
1840	Henry Cadogan Rothery, St. John's College	10th.
1843	Edwin Hamilton Gifford, St. John's College	15th.
1851	John Sutherland Clarke, St. John's College	11th.
1853	Henry Arthur Morgan, Jesus College	25th.
1854	Benjamin Worthy Horne, St. John's College	4th.
1854	Henry George Day, St. John's College	5th.
1854	Samuel Hawkesley Burbury, St. John's College	15th.
1858	Edward Larkin Horne, Clare Hall	35th.
1859	Thomas Grenfel Vyvyan, Gonville and Caius College	9th.

<sup>1</sup> A. J. Ellis was at Shrewsbury from August, 1826, to Christmas, 1829. He subsequently went to Eton College before going up to Cambridge. His name was put on the Honour Boards at Shrewsbury by Dr. Kennedy at his own special request.

1860	George Macfarlan, Trinity College	14th.
1860	Richard Saul Ferguson, St. John's College	27th.
1864	William Whitworth, Pembroke College	34th.
1867	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	35th.
1867	George Thomas Hall, Trinity College	38th.
1884	Eustace Thomas Clarke, St. John's College	17th.
1897	Charles Orpen Tuckey, Trinity College	10th æqu.

*MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS.*

## PART II.

1898 <sup>1</sup>	Charles Orpen Tuckey, Trinity College.
-------------------	--

*CLASSICAL TRIPOS.*

## FIRST CLASS.

1824	Edward Baines, Christ's College	4th.
1826	John Price, St. John's College	3rd.
1826	John Hodgson, Trinity College	5th.
1826	Frederic Edward Gretton, St. John's College	7th.
1827	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, St. John's College	SENIOR.
1827	George Ash Butterton, St. John's College	3rd.
1828	Thomas Williamson Peile, Trinity College	2nd.
1829	Horatio Samuel Nelson Hildyard, Peterhouse	5th.
1829	Robert Smith, St. John's College	6th.
1829	Thomas Butler, St. John's College	7th.
1831	Charles Rann Kennedy, <sup>2</sup> Trinity College	SENIOR.
1831	Charles James Johnstone, Gonville and Caius College	4th.
1832	Richard Shilleto, Trinity College	2nd.
1832	Edward Broadhurst, Magdalene College	7th.
1833	James Hildyard, Christ's College	2nd.
1834	George John Kennedy, St. John's College	SENIOR.
1834	Edward Warter, Magdalene College	4th.
1835	George Frederic Harris, Trinity College	3rd.
1835	John Cooper, Trinity College	7th.
1836	George Henry Marsh, St. John's College	2nd.
1836	William Henry Bateson, St. John's College	3rd.
1836	Richard Edward Turner, Trinity College	6th.
1837	William Gilson Humphry, Trinity College	SENIOR.
1838	George Augustus Chichester May, Magdalene College	3rd.
1838	Henry Thompson, St. John's College	7th.

<sup>1</sup> From 1882 to 1886 the examination for Mathematical Honours was divided into three parts. The examination in Parts I. and II. took place in June, and that in Part III., for which only Wranglers were eligible, in the following January. Since 1886 the examinations have both been held in June. All candidates obtaining honours in Part I. are admissible for examination in the following year in Part II.

<sup>2</sup> C. R. Kennedy was at Shrewsbury School from February, 1821, to Christmas, 1822; but he left at the age of 14, and was subsequently four years at King Edward's School, Birmingham, before going to Cambridge, so that his name ought not to have been placed on the Honour Boards at Shrewsbury.



1838	William Parkinson, St. John's College	8th.
1839	Augustus Macdonald Hopper, Trinity College	6th.
1840	Francis France, St. John's College	SENIOR æqu.
1841	Edward Meredith Cope, Trinity College	SENIOR.
1841	John Bather, St. John's College	2nd.
1841	Henry Thring, Magdalene College	3rd.
1842	Hugh Andrew Johnstone Munro, Trinity College	2nd.
1842	Francis Morse, St. John's College	7th.
1843	George Druce, Peterhouse	} SENIOR æqu.
1843	Edwin Hamilton Gifford, St. John's College	
1844	William George Clark, Trinity College	2nd.
1846	Henry de Winton, Trinity College	3rd.
1848	John Eyton Bickersteth Mayor, St. John's College	3rd.
1849	Henry Carr Archdale Tayler, Trinity College	4th.
1851	John William Taylor, Peterhouse	12th.
1852	Robert Burn, Trinity College	SENIOR æqu.
1852	Philip Perring, Trinity College	4th.
1852	William Chandless, Trinity College	5th.
1852	Arthur White, Magdalene College	16th.
1854	Samuel Hawkesley Burbury, St. John's College	2nd.
1854	George Peter Montgomery Campbell, Magdalene College	7th.
1854	Henry George Day, St. John's College	9th.
1856	Edward Lawford Brown, Trinity College	SENIOR.
1857	John Robinson Lee, Magdalene College	5th.
1858	Edwin Charles Clark, Trinity College	SENIOR.
1858	Alexander William Potts, St. John's College	2nd.
1858	Samuel Butler, St. John's College	12th.
1859	Arthur Holmes, St. John's College	2nd.
1860	Robert Whiting, Trinity College	6th.
1862	Charles Edward Graves, St. John's College	2nd.
1862	Thomas Gwatkin, St. John's College	10th.
1864	Henry Whitehead Moss, St. John's College	SENIOR.
1864	George Preston, Magdalene College	16th.
1866	William Francis Smith, St. John's College	2nd.
1867	Thomas William Brogden, St. John's College	} æqu. 9th.
1867	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	
1867	Frederic Gunton, Magdalene College	16th.
1868	Thomas Moss, St. John's College	4th.
1869	George Hanley Hallam, St. John's College	SENIOR æqu.
1870	George Herbert Whitaker, St. John's College	SENIOR æqu.
1871	William Emerton Heitland, St. John's College	SENIOR.
1871	Harry Lyndsay Manby, Emmanuel College	11th æqu.
1872	Richard Dacre Archer-Hind, Trinity College	3rd æqu.
1873	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	2nd æqu.
1874	Charles Bramley, Jesus College	6th æqu.
1874	Edward Branthwaite Moser, St. John's College	11th.
1874	William Glynn Williams, St. John's College	18th.
1875	William James Furneaux Vashon Baker, St. John's College	4th.
1875	William Moss, St. John's College	19th æqu.

1876	Henry Wace, St. John's College	SENIOR.
1876	Robert Cooper Seaton, Jesus College	12th æqu.
1876	Tancred Earle Raven, Gonville and Caius College	14th æqu.
1878	William Wallis English, St. John's College	3rd.
1880	Arthur Frederic Chance, Trinity College	5th æqu.
1880	William Ormond Sutcliffe, St. John's College.	14th æqu.
1881	Cecil Hill Garland, St. John's College	8th æqu.
1881	Charles Edward Lawrence, Pembroke College	10th æqu.
1882	John Reynolds Wardale, Clare College	2nd.
1882	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	3rd.

*CLASSICAL TRIPOS.*

## PART I. FIRST CLASS.

1883 <sup>1</sup>	Owen Seaman, Clare College	Division 3.
1883	William Joseph Myles Starkie, Trinity College	Division 3.
1884	Henry Brough Stanwell, St. John's College	Division 5.
1885	Joseph Robinson Orford, King's College	Division 1.
1885	Walter John Purton, Pembroke College	Division 3.
1886	John Lewis Alexander Paton, St. John's College	Division 1.
1886	Harold Kennedy St. John Sanderson, Trinity College	Division 1.
1888	Edwin Joseph Brooks, St. John's College	Division 1.
1889	Henry William Auden, Christ's College	Division 2.
1890	Thomas Nicklin, St. John's College	Division 2.
1891	William Henry Jacques, Trinity College	Division 2.
1891	Frederick James Kittermaster, King's College	Division 2.
1891	Richard Arthur Parrock, Pembroke College	Division 2.
1891	Charles Grafton Worsley Lowe, Clare College	Division 3.
1892	Isaac Frank Smedley, Pembroke College	Division 1.
1892	John Arnold Nicklin, St. John's College	Division 2.
1894	Henry Hebb Sills, King's College	Division 2.
1894	Robert William Tate, St. John's College	Division 2.
1894	Alexander Talbot Baines, Trinity College	Division 3.
1896	Charles Leslie Alexander, Trinity College	Division 3.
1896	Charles Edward Noel James, King's College	Division 3.
1897	Joseph James Rabnett Bridge, Gonville and Caius College.	Division 2.
1897	Charles Travers Wood, Pembroke College	Division 2.

*CLASSICAL TRIPOS.*

## PART II. FIRST CLASS.

1886	Walter John Purton, Pembroke College.
1887	John Lewis Alexander Paton, St. John's College.
1889	Edwin Joseph Brooks, St. John's College.
1892	William Henry Jacques, Trinity College.
1893	Isaac Frank Smedley, Pembroke College.
1895	Robert William Tate, St. John's College.
1896	Henry Hebb Sills, King's College.

<sup>1</sup> The examination for the Classical Tripos was divided into two parts under arrangements which commenced in 1881. The first examination in Part I. took place in June, 1891, and the first examination in Part II. in June, 1892.

*THEOLOGICAL TRIPOS.*

## FIRST CLASS.

- 1860 Herbert Mortimer Luckock, Jesus College (distinguished in Hebrew).  
 1868 Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College.  
 1882 Arthur Appleton, Trinity College.  
 1891 Ralph Cecil Purton, St. Peter's College.  
 1894 Frederic George Harries, Trinity College (distinguished in Old Testament).

*MORAL SCIENCES TRIPOS.*

## FIRST CLASS.

- 1868 Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College.

*LAW TRIPOS.*

## FIRST CLASS.

- |      |   |          |
|------|---|----------|
| 1875 | John Wynne Jeudwine, St. John's College     | 4th.     |
| 1877 | Henry Thomas Kemp, St. John's College       | 3rd.     |
| 1885 | Henry Durbin Lewis, Clare College           | 8th æqu. |
| 1898 | Edward Ackroyd, Gonville and Caius College. |          |

*NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS.*

## FIRST CLASS.

- |      |  |          |
|------|--|----------|
| 1864 | Charles William Cooper, Gonville and Caius College | 4th.     |
| 1878 | Henry Lewis Jones, Gonville and Caius College      | 6th.     |
| 1889 | Arthur Philip Beddard, Trinity College             | Part I.  |
| 1890 | Arthur Philip Beddard, Trinity College             | Part II. |
| 1896 | Robert Hawthorn Kitson, Trinity College            | Part II. |
| 1896 | Arthur Jackson, St. Peter's College                | Part I.  |
| 1898 | Harry Secretan Gabb, Downing College               | Part I.  |
| 1898 | William Lowe, Gonville and Caius College           | Part I.  |
| 1898 | Edwin Hartree Rayner, Trinity College              | Part II. |

*UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS.*

- |      |   |                                 |
|------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1814 | Marmaduke Lawson, St. John's College          | Pitt Scholar.                   |
| 1816 | Richard Periam Thursfield, St. John's College | Second Bell Scholar.            |
| 1819 | Spencer Wilde, St. John's College             | Recorded equal to Bell Scholar. |
| 1821 | Edward Baines, Christ's College               | Second Bell Scholar.            |
| 1823 | John Price, St. John's College                | Recorded equal to Bell Scholar. |
| 1824 | Benjamin Hall Kennedy, St. John's College     | Pitt Scholar.                   |
| 1825 | Thomas Williamson Peile, Trinity College      | Davies Scholar.                 |
| 1826 | Horatio Samuel Nelson Hildyard, Peterhouse    | First Bell Scholar.             |
| 1826 | Thomas Butler, St. John's College             | Recorded equal to Bell Scholar. |
| 1828 | Charles Rann Kennedy, Trinity College         | First Bell Scholar.             |
| 1830 | Charles Rann Kennedy, Trinity College         | Pitt Scholar.                   |

1831	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Battie Scholar.
1831	George John Kennedy, St. John's College	First Bell Scholar.
1832	George John Kennedy, St. John's College	Davies Scholar.
1833	George Henry Marsh, St. John's College	Bell Scholar æqu.
1834	Alexander Grant Hildyard, Pembroke College	Second Bell Scholar.
1835	William Gilson Humphry, Trinity College	Pitt Scholar.
1835	George Augustus Chichester May, Magdalene College	Bell Scholar æqu.
1841	Hugh Andrew Johnstone Munro, Trinity College	Craven Scholar.
1842	Edwin Hamilton Gifford, St. John's College	Pitt Scholar.
1842	George Druce, Peterhouse	Proxime accessit to Pitt Scholar.
1843	Rev. Mynors Bright, Magdalene College	Tyrwhitt Hebrew Scholar.
1849	William Owen, St. John's College	Proxime accessit to Craven Scholar.
1853	Edward Lawford Brown, Trinity College	First Bell Scholar.
1853	Samuel Hawkesley Burbury, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1855	Edward Lawford Brown, Trinity College	Proxime accessit to Craven Scholar.
1856	Arthur Holmes, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1856	Arthur Holmes, St. John's College	First Bell Scholar.
1857	Robert Whiting, Trinity College	Second Bell Scholar.
1861	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, Jesus College	Crosse Theological Scholar.
1862	Henry Whitehead Moss, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1862	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, Jesus College	Tyrwhitt Hebrew Scholar.
1863	William Francis Smith, St. John's College	Second Bell Scholar.
1866	Thomas Moss, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1867	George Herbert Whitaker, St. John's College	Bell Scholar æqu.
1868	George Hanley Hallam, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1869	William Emerton Heitland, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1869	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	Crosse Theological Scholar.
1870	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	Tyrwhitt Hebrew Scholar.
1871	Richard Dacre Archer-Hind, Trinity College	Craven Scholar.
1871	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	Porson Scholar.
1872	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	Davies Scholar.
1873	Henry Wace, St. John's College	Porson Scholar.
1874	Henry Wace, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1878	Cecil Hill Garland, St. John's College	Abbott Scholar.
1879	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Porson Scholar.
1879	John Reynolds Wardale, Clare College	Bell Scholar æqu.
1880	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1881	John Reynolds Wardale, Clare College	Battie Scholar.
1887	Henry William Auden, Christ's College	Second Bell Scholar æqu.
1888	Edwin Joseph Brooks, St. John's College	Craven Scholar.
1897	Robert Hawthorn Kitson, B.A., Trinity College	Harkness Scholar. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Harkness Scholarship for Geology and Palæontology was founded in 1887



## UNIVERSITY PRIZES.

## CAMDEN AND POWIS MEDALS.

1849	William Owen, St. John's College	Camden.
1865	Frederic Gunton, Magdalene College	Camden.
1866	Frederic Gunton, Magdalene College	Camden.
1873	Henry Wace, St. John's College	Powis.
1874	Henry Wace, St. John's College	Powis.
1881	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Powis.
1896	Joseph James Rabnett Bridge, Gonville and Caius College	Powis.

## BROWNE MEDALS.

1806	Thomas Smart Hughes, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1807	Thomas Smart Hughes, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1812	Marmaduke Lawson, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1821	Edward Baines, Christ's College	Epigrams.
1823	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, <sup>1</sup> St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1824	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1824	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1825	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, St. John's College	Epigrams.
1829	Charles Rann Kennedy, Trinity College	Greek Ode.
1830	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Greek Ode.
1830	Charles Rann Kennedy, Trinity College	Latin Ode.
1831	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Greek Ode.
1831	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Latin Ode.
1831	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Epigrams.
1832	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Greek Ode.
1832	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Latin Ode.
1842	William George Clark, Trinity College	Greek Ode.
1842	William George Clark, Trinity College	Epigrams.
1843	William George Clark, Trinity College	Greek Ode.
1844	James George Currey Fussell, Trinity College	Epigrams.
1845	Henry de Winton, Trinity College	Greek Ode.
1848	Henry Carr Archdale Tayler, Trinity College	Epigrams.
1850	Philip Perring, Trinity College	Greek Ode.
1856	Edwin Charles Clark, Trinity College	Epigrams.
1857	Robert Whiting, Trinity College	Epigrams.
1857	Arthur Holmes, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1858	Arthur Holmes, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1863	Henry Whitehead Moss, St. John's College	Greek Elegiacs.
1865	Frederic Gunton, Magdalene College	Latin Ode.
1866	Thomas Moss, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1866	Thomas Moss, St. John's College	Greek Epigram.
1867	George Hanley Hallam, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1867	George Hanley Hallam, St. John's College	Latin Ode.

<sup>1</sup> B. H. Kennedy's Latin ode was selected for the medal, but it was not awarded to him, as, by a recent Grace of the Senate, he was ineligible, not being yet in residence.

1868	George Hanley Hallam, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1869	Richard Dacre Hodgson, <sup>1</sup> Trinity College	Greek Elegiacs.
1870	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1870	Charles Dixon, Gonville and Caius College	Greek Epigram.
1871	Charles Dixon, Gonville and Caius College	Greek Elegiacs.
1871	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1871	Edward Branthwaite Moser, St. John's College	Latin Epigram.
1872	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1872	Edward Branthwaite Moser, St. John's College	Greek Epigram.
1876	William Wallis English, St. John's College	Greek Epigram.
1879	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1879	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1879	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Greek Epigram.
1880	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1880	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1881	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Greek Ode.
1881	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Latin Ode.
1881	John Cottam Moss, St. John's College	Greek Epigram.
1881	Harold Comerford Clarkson, King's College	Latin Epigram.
1885	Joseph Robinson Orford, King's College	Greek Epigram.
1886	Harold Kennedy St. John Sanderson, Trinity College	Latin Epigram.
1890	Frederick James Kittermaster, King's College	Greek Elegiacs.
1891	Frederick James Kittermaster, King's College	Greek Elegiacs.
1891	William Henry Jacques, Trinity College	Latin Epigram.

PORSON PRIZE.<sup>2</sup>

1823	Benjamin Hall Kennedy	St. John's College.
1824	Benjamin Hall Kennedy	St. John's College.
1825	John Hodgson	Trinity College.
1826	Benjamin Hall Kennedy	St. John's College.
1829	Charles Rann Kennedy	Trinity College.
1830	Charles Rann Kennedy	Trinity College.
1831	George John Kennedy	St. John's College.
1838	Thomas Saunders Evans	St. John's College.
1839	Edward Meredith Cope	Trinity College.
1841	George Druce	Peterhouse.
1842	George Druce	Peterhouse.
1843	William George Clark	Trinity College.
1849	Francis Kewley	St. John's College.
1850	William Owen	St. John's College.
1851	George Bentley Morley	St. John's College.
1852	Samuel Hawkesley Burbury	St. John's College.
1853	Samuel Hawkesley Burbury	St. John's College.
1855	Edward Lawford Brown	Trinity College.
1856	Arthur Holmes	St. John's College.

<sup>1</sup> Now Archer-Hind.<sup>2</sup> The Porson Prize, for the best translation into Greek verse of a passage from some standard English poet, was originally founded in 1816.

1857	Arthur Holmes	St. John's College.
1858	Arthur Holmes	St. John's College.
1859	Robert Whiting	Trinity College.
1861	Charles Edward Graves	St. John's College
1861	Henry Whitehead Moss	St. John's College } æqu.
1862	Henry Whitehead Moss	St. John's College.
1863	Henry Whitehead Moss	St. John's College.
1864	Thomas William Brogden	St. John's College.
1867	Thomas Moss	St. John's College.
1869	Richard Dacre Hodgson <sup>1</sup>	Trinity College.
1870	Thomas Ethelbert Page	St. John's College, æqu.
1873	Henry Wace.	St. John's College.
1874	Henry Wace.	St. John's College.
1875	Henry Wace.	St. John's College, æqu.
1877	Arthur Frederic Chance	Trinity College.
1879	Arthur Frederic Chance	Trinity College.
1880	Cecil Hill Garland	St. John's College, æqu.
1882	Owen Seaman	Clare College.
1885	Joseph Robinson Orford	King's College, æqu.
1892	Isaac Frank Smedley	Pembroke College.

MEMBERS' PRIZES.<sup>2</sup>

1807	John Turner, B.A., St. John's College	Latin Essay.
1809	Thomas Smart Hughes, B.A., St. John's College	Latin Essay.
1810	Thomas Smart Hughes, B.A., St. John's College	Latin Essay.
1810	William Henry Parry, B.A., St. John's College	Latin Essay.
1812	Robert Wilson Evans, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1827	Thomas Williamson Peile, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1828	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, B.A., St. John's College	Latin Essay.
1832	Horatio Samuel Nelson Hildyard, B.A., Peterhouse	Latin Essay.
1832	James Hildyard, B.A., Christ's College	Latin Essay.
1833	James Hildyard, B.A., Christ's College	Latin Essay.
1836	William Gilson Humphry, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1841	George Nugeé, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1842	Thomas Ramsbotham, B.A., Christ's College	Latin Essay.
1843	George Nugeé, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1844	James George Currey Fussell, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1851	Henry Carr Archdale Tayler, B.A., Trinity College	Latin Essay.
1859	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, B.A., Jesus College	Latin Essay.
1861	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, B.A., Jesus College	Latin Essay.
1862	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, B.A., Jesus College	Latin Essay.
1891	Thomas Nicklin, B.A., St. John's College	Latin Essay.
1894	John Arnold Nicklin, B.A., St. John's College	English Essay.

<sup>1</sup> Now Archer-Hind.<sup>2</sup> The Members' Prizes were originally founded in 1752. They were four in number, and were awarded to Bachelors of Arts who were not of sufficient standing to take their M.A. degree. From 1827 to 1870 two were given to Undergraduates and two to Bachelors of Arts. Since 1870 only two prizes have been given each year, one for a Latin Essay and one for an English. They are open to all members of the University under the standing of M.A.

CHANCELLOR'S CLASSICAL MEDALS.

1811	Robert Wilson Evans, Trinity College	Junior.
1816	Marmaduke Lawson, Magdalene College	æqu.
1826	John Hodgson, Trinity College	Junior.
1827	Benjamin Hall Kennedy, St. John's College	Senior.
1828	Thomas Williamson Peile, Trinity College	Junior.
1833	James Hildyard, Christ's College	Junior.
1837	William Gilson Humphry, Trinity College	Junior.
1842	Hugh Andrew Johnstone Munro, Trinity College	Senior.
1843	Edwin Hamilton Gifford, St. John's College	Senior.
1843	George Druce, Peterhouse	Junior.
1844	William George Clark, Trinity College	Junior.
1854	Samuel Hawkesley Burbury, St. John's College	Junior.
1856	Edward Lawford Brown, Trinity College	Senior.
1858	Edwin Charles Clark, Trinity College	Senior.
1858	Alexander William Potts, St. John's College	Junior.
1872	Richard Dacre Archer-Hind, Trinity College	Senior.
1873	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	æqu.
1876	Henry Wace, St. John's College	Senior.
1878	William Wallis English, St. John's College	Junior.
1887	John Lewis Alexander Paton, St. John's College	Junior.
1889	Edwin Joseph Brooks, St. John's College	æqu.

ENGLISH POEMS.

1817	Thomas Smart Hughes, M.A., Emmanuel College	Seatonian Prize.
1858	Arthur Holmes, St. John's College	Chancellor's Medal.
1867	Thomas Moss, St. John's College	Chancellor's Medal.
1872	Thomas Ethelbert Page, St. John's College	Chancellor's Medal.

ENGLISH ESSAYS.

1813	William Henry Parry, St. John's College	Norrisian Prize.
1845	George Nugeé, Trinity College	Maitland Prize.
1882	John Spencer Hill, St. John's College	Maitland Prize.

THEOLOGICAL PRIZES.

1842	Mynors Bright, Magdalene College	Hebrew Prize.
1860	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, Jesus College	Scholefield Prize.
1860	Herbert Mortimer Luckock, Jesus College	Carus Prize.
1865	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	Carus Prize.
1868	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	Scholefield Prize.
1868	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	Hebrew Prize.
1869	Henry Melvill Gwatkin, St. John's College	Carus Prize æqu.
1898	Charles Travers Wood, Pembroke College	Jeremie Prize.

BROTHERTON PRIZE FOR SANSKRIT.<sup>1</sup>

1887	Walter John Purton, B.A.	Pembroke College.
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<sup>1</sup> The Brotherton Prize for Sanskrit was founded at Corpus Christi College in 1875, and has been open from the first to all graduates of Cambridge under the standing of M.A. It is awarded once in three years.



## HONOURS AT OXFORD

*FIRST CLASS IN LITERIS HUMANIORIBUS.*

1828	George Henry Sacheverell Johnson	Queen's College.
1829	Herbert Johnson	Wadham College.
1831	Peter Samuel Henry Payne	Balliol College.
1833	John Gibbons Longueville	Wadham College.
1833	Robert Scott	Christ Church.
1833	Thomas Frederic Henney	Pembroke College.
1833	William Fletcher	Trinity College.
1837	Henry Holden	Balliol College.
1838	Robert Middleton Dukes	Lincoln College.
1839	James Fraser	Lincoln College.
1840	Edward Bather	Merton College.
1845	James Riddell	Balliol College.
1847	George Osborne Morgan	Worcester College.
1853	William Inge	Worcester College.
1865	John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell	Christ Church.
1873	Arthur Herman Gilkes	Christ Church.
1874	Francis Paget	Christ Church.
1878	Henry Bernard Hodgson	Queen's College.
1878	Robert Forman Horton	New College.
1897	Aubrey Trevor Lawrence	Christ Church.

*FIRST CLASS IN MODERATIONS.*

## CLASSICAL SCHOOL.

1852	William Inge	Worcester College.
1853	Alfred Beale Roake	Christ Church.
1861	John Batten	Balliol College.
1863	John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell	Christ Church.
1863	Joseph Dunn Lester	Jesus College.
1864	George Sholto Douglas Murray	Wadham College.
1864	Robert Edward Williams	Jesus College.
1868	Charles Edward Benedict Barnwell	Christ Church.
1869	James Sculthorpe Lewis	Christ Church.
1870	Arthur Herman Gilkes	Christ Church.
1871	Francis Paget	Christ Church.
1872	Horace Annesley Powys	St. John's College.
1873	John Henry Onions	Christ Church.
1874	Samuel Blackwell Guest-Williams	Exeter College.
1875	John Howard Deazeley	Merton College.
1875	Robert Forman Horton	New College.
1876	Henry Bernard Hodgson	Queen's College.
1877	Charles William Sandford Corser	Christ Church.

1877	John Pugh Cranstoun	Oriel College.
1881	Griffith Hartwell Jones	Jesus College.
1883	Thomas Edward Pickering	University College.
1885	Edward Bell Raper	Pembroke College.
1891	Hugo Sharpley	Corpus Christi College.
1891	Edward Tudor-Owen	Christ Church.
1895	Aubrey Trevor Lawrence	Christ Church.
1898	Charles Edward Dansey Peters	Corpus Christi College.
1898	Harry Bevir Vaisey	Hertford College.

*FIRST CLASS IN MATHEMATICS.*

## FINAL SCHOOL.

1828	George Henry Sacheverell Johnson	Queen's College.
1867	Cyril Dodd	Merton College.

*FIRST CLASS, NATURAL SCIENCES.*

1854	Edward Long Fox	Balliol College.
1858	Thomas Wolseley-Lewis	Jesus College.
1893	Robert Whitworth Payne	Christ Church.
1896	Bertram Henry Bentley	Keble College.

*FIRST CLASS IN MODERN HISTORY SCHOOL.*

1875	Horace Annesley Powys	St. John's College.
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*FIRST CLASS IN FINAL SCHOOL OF JURISPRUDENCE.*

1893	John Charles Miles	Exeter College.
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## UNIVERSITY PRIZES.

## ENGLISH POEMS.

1846	George Osborne Morgan, Balliol College	Newdigate Prize.
1856	William Powell James, Oriel College	Newdigate Prize.

## ENGLISH ESSAYS.

1838	Robert Scott, Balliol College	Denyer <sup>1</sup> Theological Essay.
1846	Robert Trimmer, Wadham College	Chancellor's Prize.
1850	George Osborne Morgan, Worcester College	Chancellor's Prize.
1852	Daniel Trinder, Exeter College	Ellerton Theological Essay.
1852	James Leycester Balfour, Queen's College	Denyer Theological Essay.
1855	Thomas Clayton, Trinity College	Chancellor's Prize.

<sup>1</sup> Between 1836 and 1863 two prizes were given each year for English theological essays from the Denyer bequest. In 1863 a statute was passed by which the Denyer fund was joined to another fund given to the University in 1833 for the encouragement of theology by Dr. John Johnson, and the whole amount was applied to the endowment of three scholarships, known as the Denyer and Johnson Theological Scholarships.

## LATIN ESSAYS.

1834	Robert Scott, Christ Church	Chancellor's Prize.
1838	William Dickenson, Trinity College	Chancellor's Prize.
1852	Henry Parker, Oriel College	Chancellor's Prize.
1885	Griffith Hartwell Jones, Jesus College	Chancellor's Prize.

## LATIN VERSE.

1832	John Thomas, Trinity College	Chancellor's Prize.
1836	William Dickenson, Trinity College	Chancellor's Prize.
1871	Francis Paget, Christ Church	Chancellor's Prize.

## UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS.

1827	George Henry Sacheverell Johnson, Queen's College	Ireland Scholar
1828	Edward Massie, Wadham College	Ireland Scholar.
1829	John Thomas, Wadham College	Craven Scholar.
1829	Charles Borrett, Magdalen College	Ireland Scholar.
1830	Peter Samuel Henry Payne, Balliol College	Ireland Scholar.
1830	Robert Scott, Christ Church	Craven Scholar.
1831	Thomas Brancker, Wadham College <sup>1</sup>	Ireland Scholar.
1831	George Henry Sacheverell Johnson, Queen's College	Mathematical Scholar.
1833	Robert Scott, Christ Church	Ireland Scholar.
1835	Edward James Justinian George Edwards, B.A., Balliol College	Kennicott Hebrew Scholar.
1838	James Fraser, Lincoln College	Proxime accessit to Ireland Scholar.
1839	James Fraser, Lincoln College	Ireland Scholar.
1842	William Basil Tickell Jones, Trinity College	Ireland Scholar.
1844	George Osborne Morgan, Balliol College <sup>2</sup>	Craven Scholar.
1850	Thomas Clayton, Trinity College	Hertford Scholar.
1851	George Osborne Morgan, Worcester College	Eldon Law Scholar.
1862	John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell, Christ Church	Proxime accessit to Hertford Scholar.
1863	John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell, Christ Church	Proxime accessit to Ireland Scholar.
1864	John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell, Christ Church	Ireland Scholar.
1865	John Emilius Lancelot Shadwell, Christ Church	Craven Scholar æqu.
1871	Francis Paget, Christ Church	Hertford Scholar.
1875	John Henry Onions, Christ Church	Ireland Scholar.
1876	John Henry Onions, Christ Church	Craven Scholar.

<sup>1</sup> "While yet in the Sixth Form at Shrewsbury School."

<sup>2</sup> "While yet in the Sixth Form at Shrewsbury School."

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES AT THE OPEN COMPETITION  
FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE OF INDIA.

		FINAL EXAMINATION.
1856	R. Taylor	...
1860	F. W. J. Rees	...
1860	E. S. Moseley	...
1860	F. H. McLaughlin	...
1861	Arthur Yardley	...
1863	C. D. Maclean	...
1868	S. H. James	...
1869	E. B. Steedman	...
1870	C. E. Marindin	...
1871	W. R. Barry	1873 (1st).
1871	G. A. Grierson	1873 (12th).
1873	B. G. Geidt	1875 (8th).
1876	S. W. Edgerley	1879 (8th).
1879	E. T. Lloyd	1881 (2nd).
1880	H. P. Todd Naylor	1882
1893	C. R. Roper	1894
1895	E. E. P. Rose	1896
1898	C. A. H. Townshend	...
1898	C. L. Alexander	...

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES FOR ADMISSION TO THE  
ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY, WOOLWICH.

1876	H. D. Laffan.*†	1895	J. P. V. Hawksley.
1882	J. de C. Laffan.	1895	R. G. Ponsonby.
1883	E. A. Edgell.*†	1897	A. W. Stokes.
1888	J. F. W. Johnson.*†	1898	G. P. MacClellan.
1890	H. E. C. Cowie.	1898	A. M. Twiss.
1891	J. Grose.	1898	J. M. R. Harrison.
1894	D. Champion Jones.	1898	B. S. Browne.

\* Gained the Pollock Medal while at Woolwich.

† Took the first place in the Woolwich examination for commissions in the Royal Engineers.



## NOTE ON THE HONOUR BOARDS

The list of names commemorated on the Honour Boards has been printed three times.

(1) In a pamphlet published by Adnitt and Naunton in 1882, and attributed by the local newspapers at the time to the Head Master of Shrewsbury.

(2) In Adnitt and Naunton's *History of Shrewsbury School*.

(3) In the *Life and Letters of Bishop Samuel Butler*. Certain errors occur in all these lists which it is desirable to point out. Those which are due to the Honour Boards themselves are marked with an asterisk.

- 1831 James Hildyard, Christ's College, Cambridge.  
Davies University Scholar.\* (Davies should be Battic.)
- 1852 D. Trinder, Exeter College, Oxford.  
Denyer's Theological Essay.\* (Denyer should be Ellerton.)
- 1852 J. L. Balfour, Queen's College, Oxford.  
Ellerton's Theological Essay.\* (Ellerton should be Denyer.)
- 1854 E. L. Fox, Balliol College, Oxford.  
First class in the Natural Science Tripos.\* (Omitted on Honour Boards.)
- 1855 T. Clayton, Trinity College, Oxford.  
Prize for English Essay. (This name is given twice over in all three lists)
- 1864 C. W. Cooper, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.  
Fourth in the first class of the Natural Science Tripos.\* (Omitted on Honour Boards.)
- 1865 J. E. L. Shadwell, Christ Church, Oxford.  
Craven University Scholar.\* (Æqu. should be added.)
- 1876 J. W. Jeudwine, St. John's College, Cambridge.  
Fourth in the first class of the Law Tripos.\* (The year should be 1875.)
- 1878 H. T. Kemp, St. John's College, Cambridge.  
Third in the first class of the Law Tripos.\* (The year should be 1877.)
- 1879 H. L. Jones, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.  
First class in the Natural Science Tripos.\* (The year should be 1878.)
- 1892 Thomas Nicklin, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.  
Members' Prize for Latin Essay.\* (The year should be 1891.)
- 1895 J. A. Nicklin, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.  
Members' Prize for English Essay.\* (The year should be 1894.)

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